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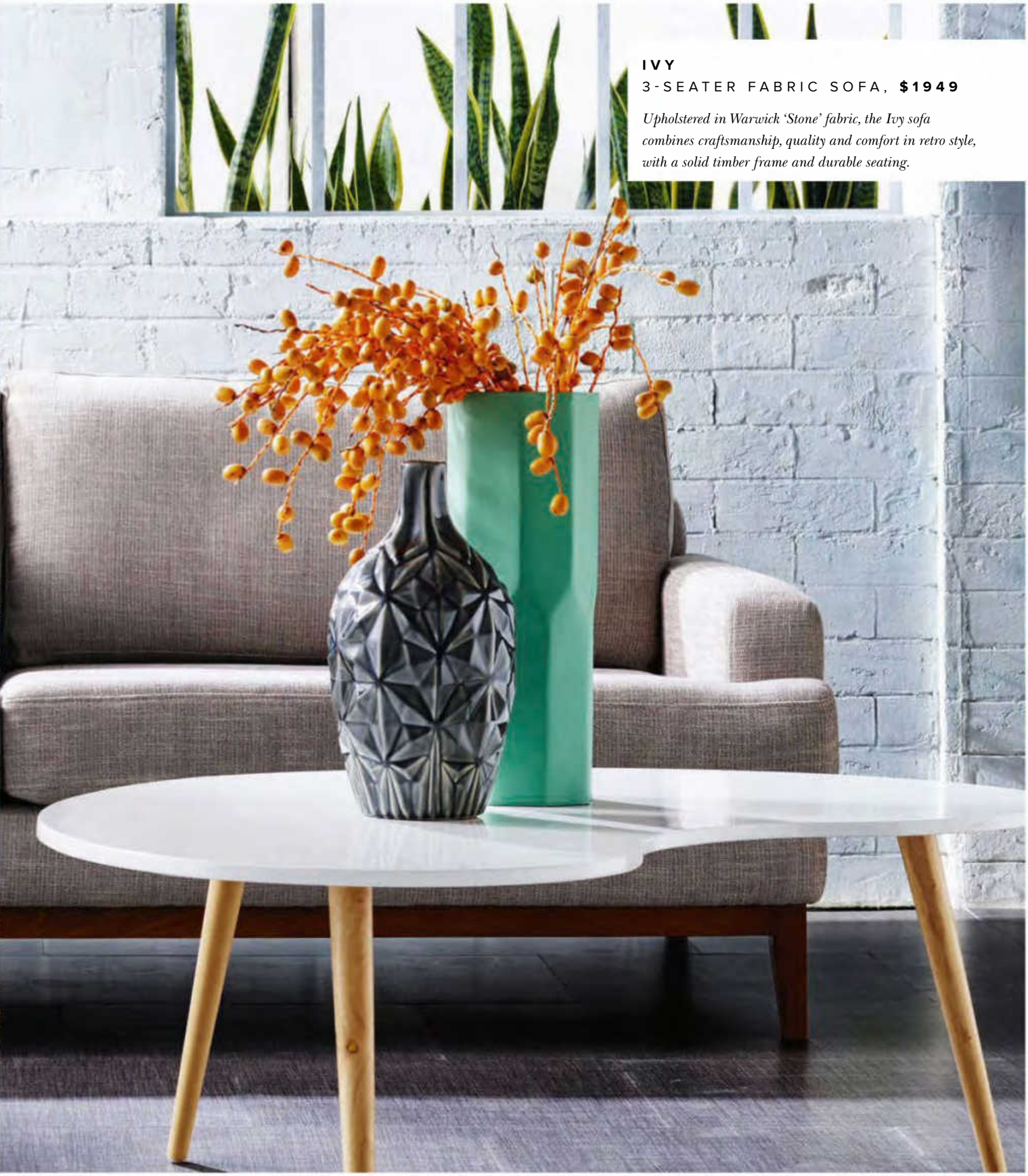
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HOT ZONES

We spend a lot of time talking kitchens and bathrooms in the *H&G* office. It's a topic we never tire of. We watch on as the style pendulum swings to and fro, determining specifics such as the thickness of benchtops, current material obsessions and even bathing habits... Will that be one showerhead or two, madam?

These are much-used, important rooms, updated on average every seven to 10 years in Australia. Has there ever been so much choice in the category? I doubt it.

Perhaps the most interesting thing about the current state of play is the freedom we have to mix different ingredients to achieve a look we want to live with. It's OK to offset cutting-edge appliances and sleek, slim countertops (15mm is the benchmark once again) with a modern version of a rustic farmhouse table, for instance. Or to use retro-leaning appliances to deliver colour and charm (note the resurgence of big country cooking ranges from brands like Aga, Falcon and Ilve) in an urban home. Custom joinery runs from homely tongue-and-groove panelling to smooth planes with recessed handle details and integrated appliances – a now-you-see-it, now-you-don't approach that allows kitchens to 'disappear' within open-plan zones.

We're now equally comfortable with hanging a decorative mirror – or three – in a classic bathroom, updating tired tap fittings to sharp black and metallics, or incorporating the super-fine profiles of new-generation basins and baths. And a killer pendant light has almost become de rigueur. No longer simply utility zones, these rooms are places to express yourself. So let the fun begin!

Our kitchen and bathroom special is a visual feast, a taste of the best ideas for every budget, to help you move from the dreaming to the planning and doing. On page 196 we reveal the winner of the Reece bathroom style story competition, a Tasmanian beauty with a strong visual narrative. The bathroom loving continues with a gorgeous fittings competition from Caroma (page 205).

As usual, our first spring issue is full of airy homes beautifully connected to the outdoors. Cue our biennial call-out to gardeners: show us how your garden grows and you could be rubbing shoulders with the Windsors at the 2016 Chelsea Flower Show. Watch for *H&G* Garden of The Year updates at www.homestolove.com.au/hg-garden-comp from August 3, and see October *H&G* for the full rundown.

Lisa

Photograph by Darren McDonald (Lisa).

CONTRIBUTORS



ANDREW WALLER
Interior architect

Using a lovely palette and bespoke joinery, Andrew took a fresh approach to a beachside home makeover, page 37. A coast-lover himself, he particularly likes "the way the materials and use of colour in the house transport you away from city life".



ALLISON LANGTON
Illustration

Allison's charming botanical art is a regular feature of 'Your *H&G*' (page 20). She relishes the challenge of trying to capture the likeness of something that's growing and changing. "I love to include little imperfections: the nibble of a caterpillar or crinkles of a fading leaf."

YOUR *H&G*

As we build our 'forever home', I can't help being distracted from the myriad building decisions by ideas for my garden. It is so exciting designing a garden from scratch. As I await handover of our home, I am stockpiling lists of plant species I want to include in our backyard. Your Earth Mother story (July) gave me some serious inspiration. I loved the bordering of the outdoor spaces with native trees and the use of steel, timber and stone for layering. Mark Fenech must enjoy the continuous twitter of local birds, something I want to nurture in my own bush retreat.
Tamara Miller, Darling Heights, Queensland

In the black

We're in the throes of planning to build our third, and hopefully final, house. I want an all-black kitchen, but my husband was arguing it would be too dark. How great to see not one but *two* black kitchens in the June issue. One with polished-concrete flooring (page 16) and the other with a wooden floor (page 99). They've prompted a new 'discussion' about flooring. Thank you for bringing him over to the dark side.
Sandra Gibson, Hastings, Victoria

Living light

Lisa's musings about her time living in a shed at the age of 10 (Editor's Letter, August) reminded me of myself, also aged 10, living in a bach [shack] with my mother. For the first year we had no electricity. We used tank water for our bathing, cooking and laundry needs. In time, we moved into a 'proper' home and welcomed the opportunity to cook in a real kitchen and to have a normal bathroom but, like Lisa, I remember that we, too, had been "extremely happy in that simplest of dwellings". It is refreshing to see your recognition of the simple things in life, and to think about that lovely quote from Peter Sutchbury: "Real beauty is found with the least number of ingredients and the most amount of thinking". Amen to that!
Di Davidson, Auckland, NZ

Cover story

Your August cover was my favourite in a long time – the design, materials and colours of the kitchen were so appealing. I read many home magazines but *H&G* is the only one I subscribe to year after year. The diversity of styles and design of the featured homes ensure that there's something for every reader.
Emma Stapleton, Airlie Beach, Qld



WRITE IN TO WIN

The author of every letter published receives $50. Our favourite also wins a fabulous prize. This month, Tamara Miller wins a Morphy Richards a:spect kettle and toaster, valued at $290; www.morphyrichards.com.au. Email your letter to h&g@bauer-media.com.au with your full name and address or post to Your *H&G*, PO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 1028.



PLANT OF THE MONTH

PERSIMMON

Colour Fruit can vary from yellow-orange to red-orange.
Shape The branches have a gnarled, sculptural form with fruit in clusters at the tips.
Look for Fruit that is firm and stable on the branch.
Best displayed "We love using persimmon to channel the Dutch Masters in our floral arranging," says Vanessa Partridge from Prunella Botanical Stylists in Kyneton, Victoria. "They loved using warm tones and fruits such as persimmon and pomegranate in their paintings." Vanessa recommends mixing the branches with lots of different flowers – especially roses, tulips and poppies in rich reds, yellows and oranges – and displaying them in an urn. "Or you could display them en masse in a large rustic terracotta vessel."
Prunella Botanical Stylists; 0412 218 408 or www.prunella.com.au. See Vanessa's floral arrangement using persimmon on our Pinterest page in September.

Illustration by Allison Langton. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

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the palette

When we spied the luscious red and pink blooms in this Instagram image by florist Simone Gooch, the spring-forward hues were earmarked for this issue. A silk scarf and table accessories tap into the rosy pinks and a fresh minty blue-green that trend forecasters suggest is here to stay awhile.

New Look Carnival Ride

Taubmans Muted Fuchsia

Porter's Paints Flamenco



BEST BUY $35

Flowers by Fjura (www.fjura.com). Photograph by Lindsay Emery (plate). Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.

INSPIRED BUYS

Letitia Green Savannah Modern silk **scarf,** $260, Everything Begins; www.everythingbegins.com. Murphy glass **vessel** in Chilli Red, $35, Freedom; 1300 135 588 or www.freedom.com.au. **Dinner plate** in Mint Watercolor Swirl, $56, Suite One Studio; suiteonestudio.com. Line glass, brass and timber **floor lamp,** $1325, Douglas and Bec; (03) 9419 1146 or douglasandbec.com.

ALL WHITE NOW

Simplicity is the essence of this once down-at-heel home, whitened and brightened to reflect its sparkling beachside location in Sydney's east.

STORY **ROSE-MARIE HILLIER** / STYLING **LOUISE BICKLE** / PHOTOGRAPHY **MAREE HOMER**





Homeowner and florist Vicki Kerr arranges frangipani in her verdant courtyard with Sooti the cat for company. Chairs, Domayne. Cushions, No Chintz. Bowls, Garden Life. **OPPOSITE /** Stacking doors are often pulled right back so the living room connects directly with the back garden. Sofa and chairs, Jardan. Mokum cushions. Entertainment unit, Beachwood Designs. Side table, Country Road. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



'My girls say it is way too white but I love the interiors being neutral.' *Vicki Kerr*

Vicki takes a break with her daughter Lily in the kitchen. This year, the busy freelance florist has been writing a coffee-table book about flowers, due out in 2016. The fully integrated kitchen features cool white Corian benchtops, Gessi tapware and a Liebherr fridge/freezer. For similar stools, try Beachwood Designs.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



The most memorable seaside homes enjoy a generosity of light and an openness that embrace both climate and location. They are often the most practical places, too, with floors you can pad around on with sandy feet and chairs that can handle damp bathers. And, they make no apologies for the beach towels hung up all over the place. Vicki and Rob Kerr's house, which overlooks one of eastern Sydney's most popular beaches, is a fine example.

When it comes to the essentials of a no-muss, no-fuss beach house, it ticks all the boxes, says Vicki, a florist who shares the home with Rob, adult daughters Lily and Chloe, and Sooti the cat. "Nine years ago, we saw that an old Californian bungalow three doors down from our townhouse was for sale, so we made the purchase with the distant view of creating a family home designed around what we love: being by the beach," says Vicki. "We'd lived in the area for six years and knew we wanted to stay."

However, it wasn't initially pleasant in the new house. "The fascia board at the front of the house was falling off," she says. "And during thunderstorms we'd get water in the back of the house." The family endured the home for a year before plans for a major renovation took hold.

Architect Tony Owen of Tony Owen Partners was engaged to help conceptualise Vicki and Rob's ideas. "He was amazing. He'd climb on the roof to see the potential, to see what we could get. There was nothing he suggested that we didn't like. All I wanted was the kitchen to be in the middle of the house and the bedrooms to be upstairs because I love ▶

being up high. I also wanted open-plan living and a strong use of light. I didn't want airconditioning, so we have a lot of louvres to capture breezes," says Vicki.

Although the footprint was altered only slightly, the layout changed radically. The original living area at the front of the house is now a dining room that opens to the new living space, while the kitchen stands where a bedroom once was. The old kitchen and outdoor laundry – as well as adjoining concrete tiles – were demolished to create a huge indoor-outdoor living space. "When we moved in, the outside area was very uneven but now it flows beautifully," says Vicki.

At the centre of the house is a double-height void with an open-tread staircase leading to the first floor, which contains the main bedroom, walk-in wardrobe and ensuite plus a family bathroom. Up a few more steps are the girls' bedrooms and what they refer to as the entertainment room.

On the ground floor, the blackbutt floorboards are painted Dulux White on White; the walls are Dulux Polar Quarter. The overall effect is somewhat ethereal. One surface flows into another because there are no traditional mouldings, only shadow lines to emphasise the contemporary look.

Vicki stands by her choice of white throughout. "Going with it means I've been able to add great art and lots of interesting pieces to the scheme," she says.

'I love everything about living here. The house is easy to manage and we use every room so there are no "dead" areas.' *Vicki*



CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT / Facing east and south, the main bedroom features a balcony with views of the rocky coast and a blue-based artwork from a gallery Vicki's mother once owned in Adelaide. The bedlinen is Cultivar and the throw is from No Chintz. Full-length louvres allow varying degrees of light into the family bathroom, where a Victoria+Albert bath sits on teak flooring next to a Milly and Eugene chair. In Chloe's room the freestanding mirror is from West Elm while the bedhead and Designers Guild throw and cushions were sourced from Outdoors on Parade.
OPPOSITE / These days, the home's facade has a very contemporary look and is entered via the new dining room, a transitional space bound by sections of the original walls. Table, Coco Republic. Chairs, Orson & Blake. Vase, Cotton Love Home. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

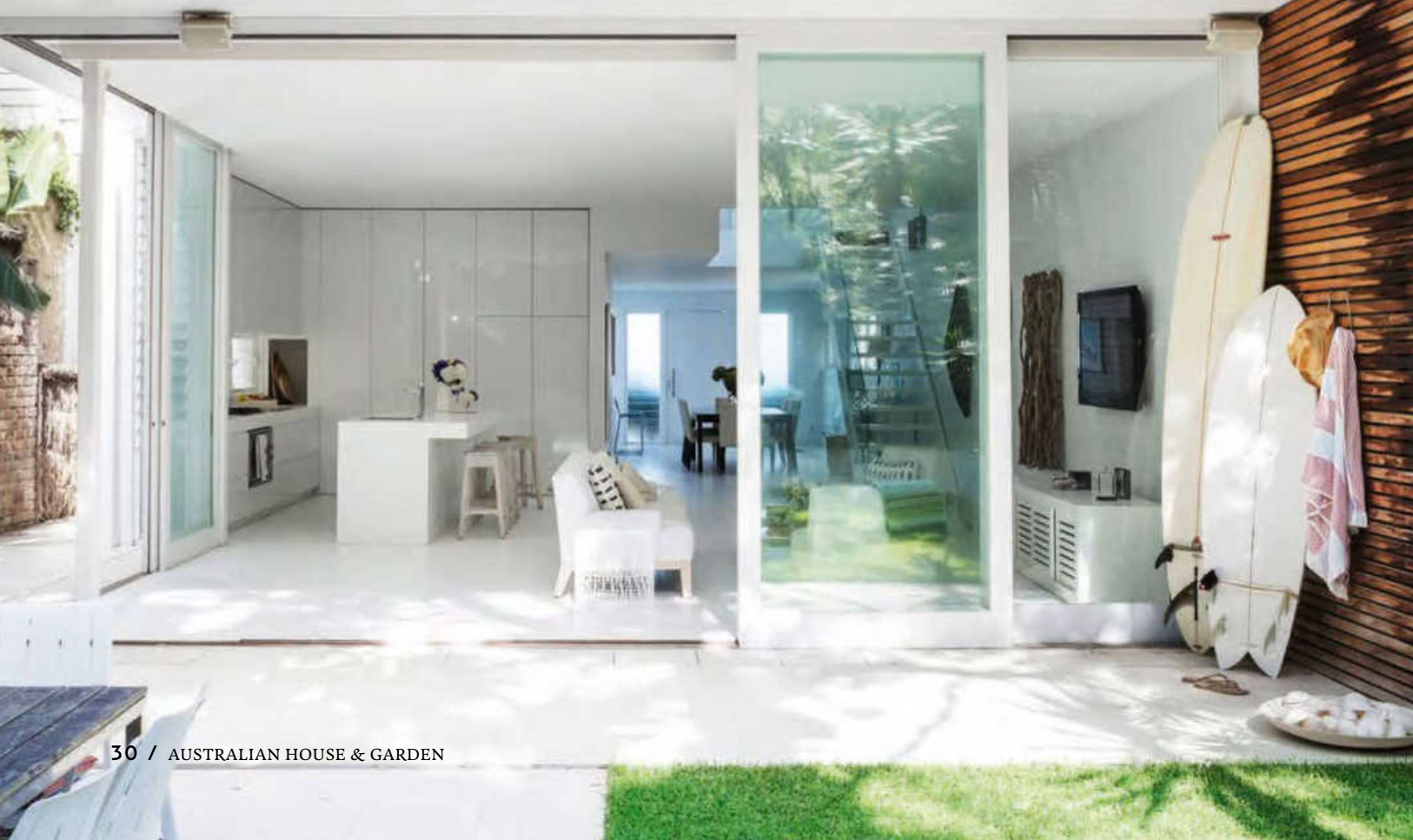


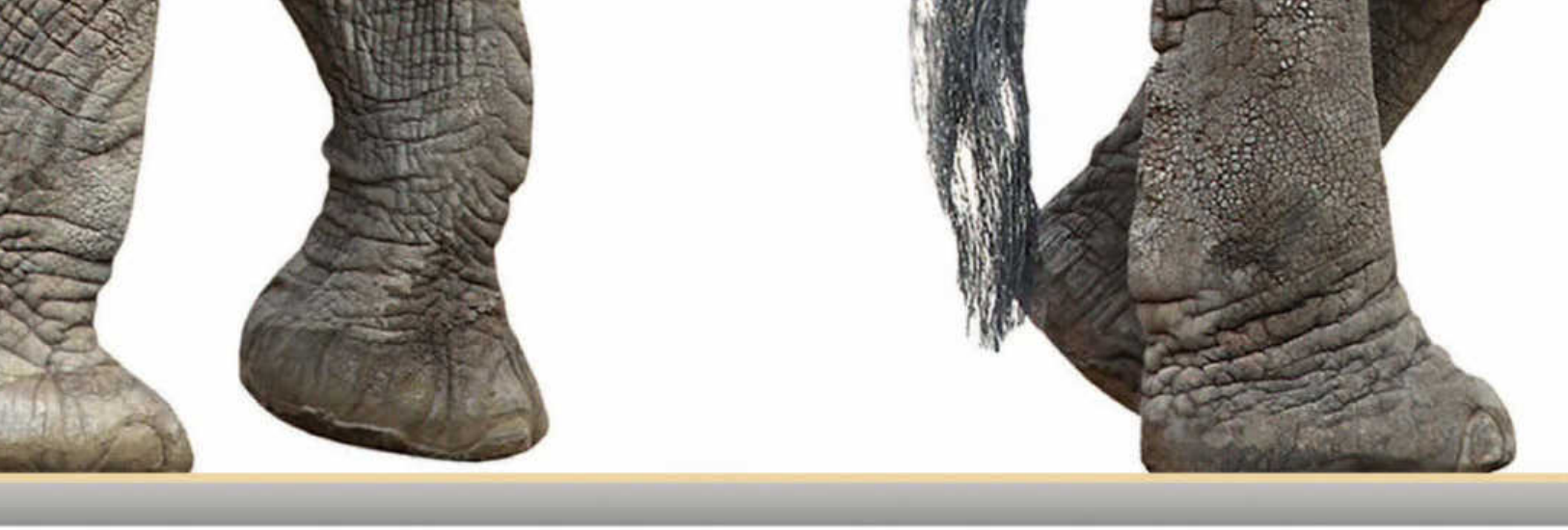




'From the upstairs balcony I can take in the view and smell of the ocean.' Vicki

Aside from Vicki everyone in the family surfs, so it was imperative the boards are always accessible. A number of timber elements, including the outdoor privacy screen and a wall sculpture next to the TV, soften the white expanses.



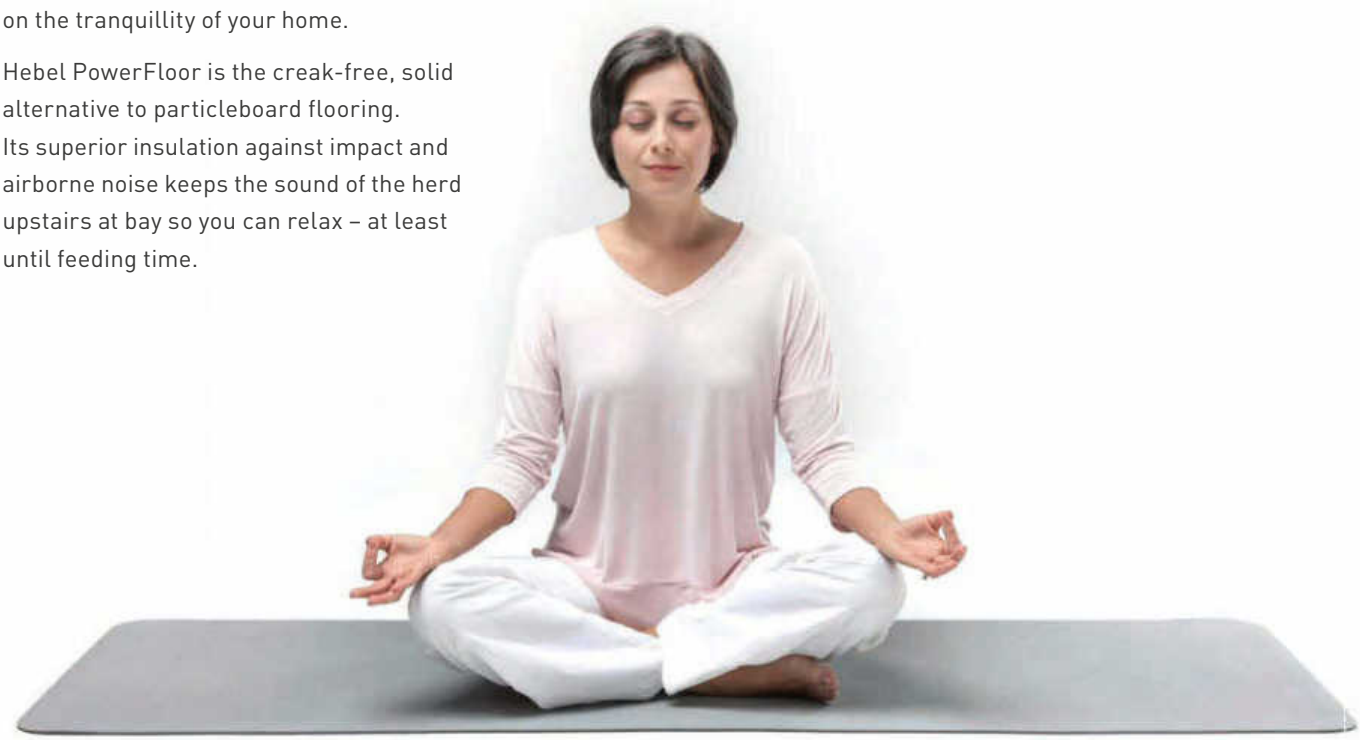


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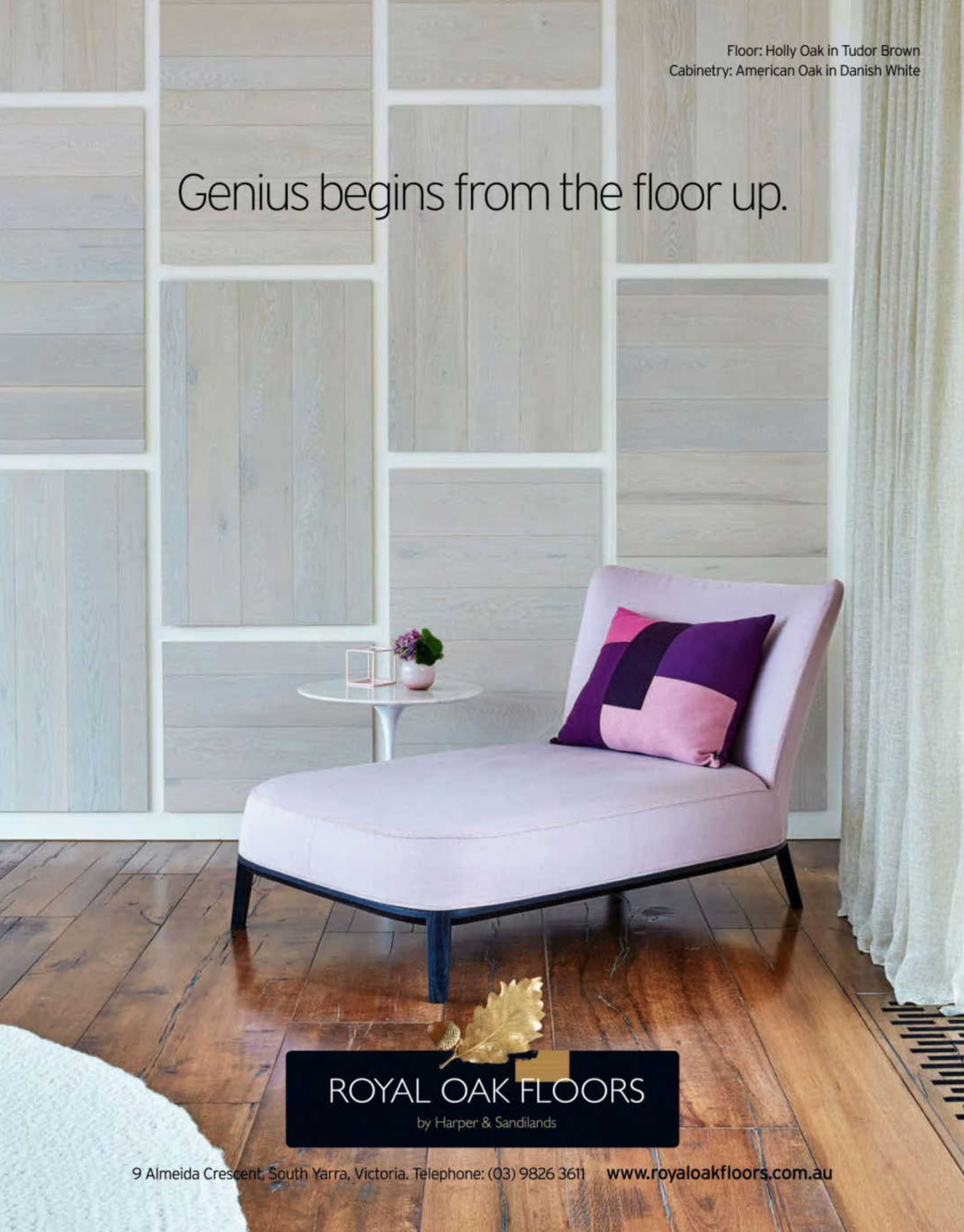
Splashes of colour, touch-me textures and arresting shapes pop like Champagne corks against a clean white backdrop. Add tonal variations and deep contrasts such as these sweet vanda orchids for an organic palette that will please the eye and the soul.





Hive wool **rug** in Peacock Blue (160x230cm), $499, Choices Flooring; choicesflooring.com.au. Copenhagen teak **table lamp,** $199, Beacon Lighting; 1300 232 266 or www.beaconlighting.com.au. Canteen stoneware **salad bowl** in Blue, $15, Target; 1300 753 567 or www.target.com.au. Brooklyn cotton **cushion** in Turquoise, $141, and Samba cotton **cushion,** $79, Linen & Moore; (03) 9419 6800 or www.linenmoore.com.au. Fletcher rubberwood **dining chair** with fabric upholstery $169, Freedom; 1300 135 588 or www.freedom.com.au. Home Republic Tower metal and MDF **side table,** $170, Adairs; 1300 783 005 or www.adairs.com.au. **H&G**

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10 steps to

MODERN CLASSIC

Inspired by its sun-soaked surroundings, interior architect Andrew Waller turned to texture and colour to revive this '70s home.

Sense of arrival

The breezy, double-height entryway creates both a sense of arrival and anticipation, offering clues to what lies beyond. "The entry is an introduction to the whole scheme," says Andrew. It's an interplay of the textures, patterns, colours and materials used throughout the house. Filament pendants and timber stool from Julie Lewis Agency. Flinders console from Globe West. Tapestry in Prussian Blue artwork from Quercus & Co. Moroccan basket and *Rhapis excelsa* plant from Garden Life. ▶

Text by Chris Pearson. Photography by Nicholas Watt. For Where to Buy, see page 232.

Sage advice

2 Andrew brought the outside in with a masterful palette. "It references the local area – the house takes in views of a bush reserve, so I opted for slightly muddy colours, which are calming." Pale eucalyptus green on the kitchen joinery and slate-blue and aqua accents in the living room as well as entryway echo the harbour outlook. So, too, do the white timber furnishings – the whitewash gives them a sun-bleached look. Island and pantry in Dulux Sage Monica. Walls in Dulux Natural White.



Artwork by Craig Ruddy. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



Cabinet briefing

3 Once the kitchen was poky, now it's light and airy. "The kitchen was the starting point for the interiors," says Andrew. "It had to have a relaxed ambience, with the island bench and pantry like stand-alone pieces of furniture." On legs, they appear to float in the space. The cabinets don't extend all the way to the ceiling, adding to the breezy effect. Miniforms Lechuck stools from Cafe Culture+Insitu. Joinery by CMK Joinery.

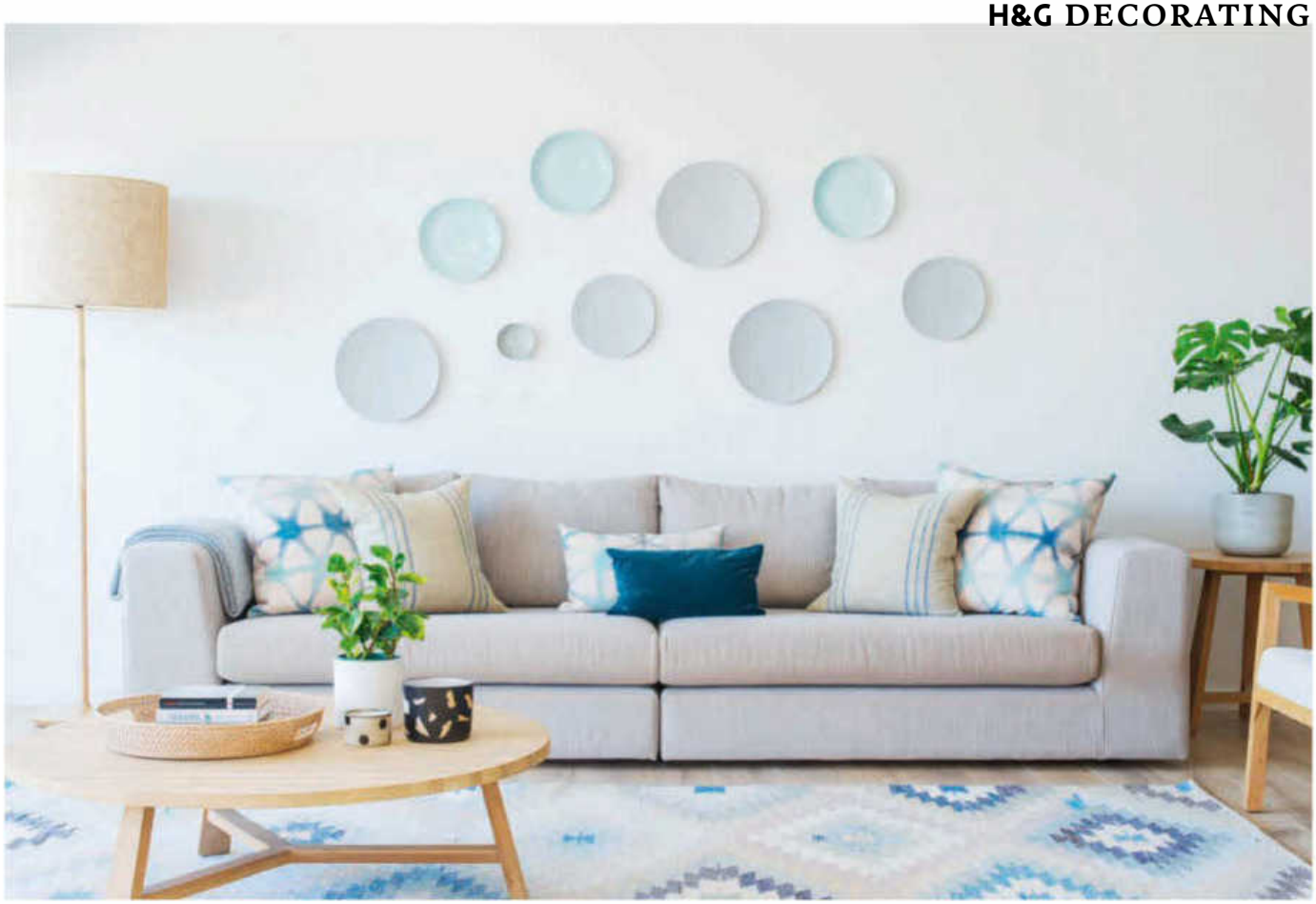
Sea meets city in this four-bedroom home, remodelled by interior architect Andrew Waller. But it wasn't always this light and inviting. The owners, a couple with two teenage boys, bought the property on Sydney's Northern Beaches in 2014. Back then, the 1970s two-storey house lacked flow: walls sliced up the living spaces and the family had to zigzag through the house to catch water glimpses. Oddly, a spa abutted the living room, the two separated by a see-through glass wall. The challenge was to make the most of the harbour view and introduce the spirit of the sea, yet reflect the home's place in the city. "It's a city house, but it's also a family home in a beach location," says Andrew. "It had to feel calm and lived-in and more sophisticated than the traditional beach house." He removed walls separating the living spaces, creating a seamless open-plan layout with abundant light and water views. The spa went down the plughole, replaced with a spacious dining area. Then the decorating journey began...

Craft class

4 The kitchen has a distinctly Scandinavian feel. "With framed doors with routed V-joint style panels, the kitchen employs a spare, functional aesthetic," says Andrew. "I am attracted to the stripped-back look, with no applied decoration. The construction is the decoration." Similarly, the oak Tripod coffee table and the ash Gus Truss armchairs, from Globe West, have a simple yet sophisticated Scandi appeal. Paris floor lamp from MRD Home. Brasserie pendant lights from Emac & Lawton.

To see more of this kitchen, turn to page 164.


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Ocean notions

5 "This house is not a period property – there were no cornices or mouldings, just square white rooms, so it was important to add texture and materiality," says Andrew. In doing so, it draws many of its cues from its bayside location. Here, woven kilims rub shoulders with ceramics and solid oak furniture, a rattan pendant hangs against a raw painted brick wall in the entryway. "Everything is natural, a layering of textures, like a pebbled beach," he says.

General pattern

6 In a house that provided a largely blank canvas, pattern also plays a key role. Geometrics – pixellated for a softer look – adorn the rugs, cushions and artwork. In the living room, a potted *Monstera deliciosa* and a bubble-like display of wall-mounted assorted plates explore pattern to add interest to the space. The motifs continue onto the adjacent terrace and into the entryway. Old Yarn kilim from Koskela. Triangle-print cushions in Morph fabric in Prussian Blue from Quercus & Co. Tripod coffee table, Globe West. Custom-made sofa.

Shade nous

7 Pendant lights punctuate the airy, lofty ceilings, which include light wells. The light fittings not only create warmth and ambience, they possess a sculptural quality, which changes its essence from day time to after dark. And they reflect Andrew's love of texture. "The woven light fitting over the dining table is like a tumbleweed. We wanted something very tactile," he says. By contrast, the pendant lights that hang above the kitchen's island bench have a cooler, more urban feel. Moloko pendant light in dining area from MRD Home.

To enjoy Andrew's video tour of this house, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.

Bleached & beached

8 This is a late 1970s house where you'll find a nod to traditional Australian weatherboard. "It's a warm, rustic aesthetic," says Andrew. Furnishings in solid oak and ash, including the coffee table, dining table and chairs, as well as the flooring, have a sun-soaked patina. Europlank engineered-wood flooring in Legacy White Extra Rustic Grade from Havwoods. Dining table, Globe West. Wishbone chairs, Cult. ▶

DESIGN PORTRAIT.



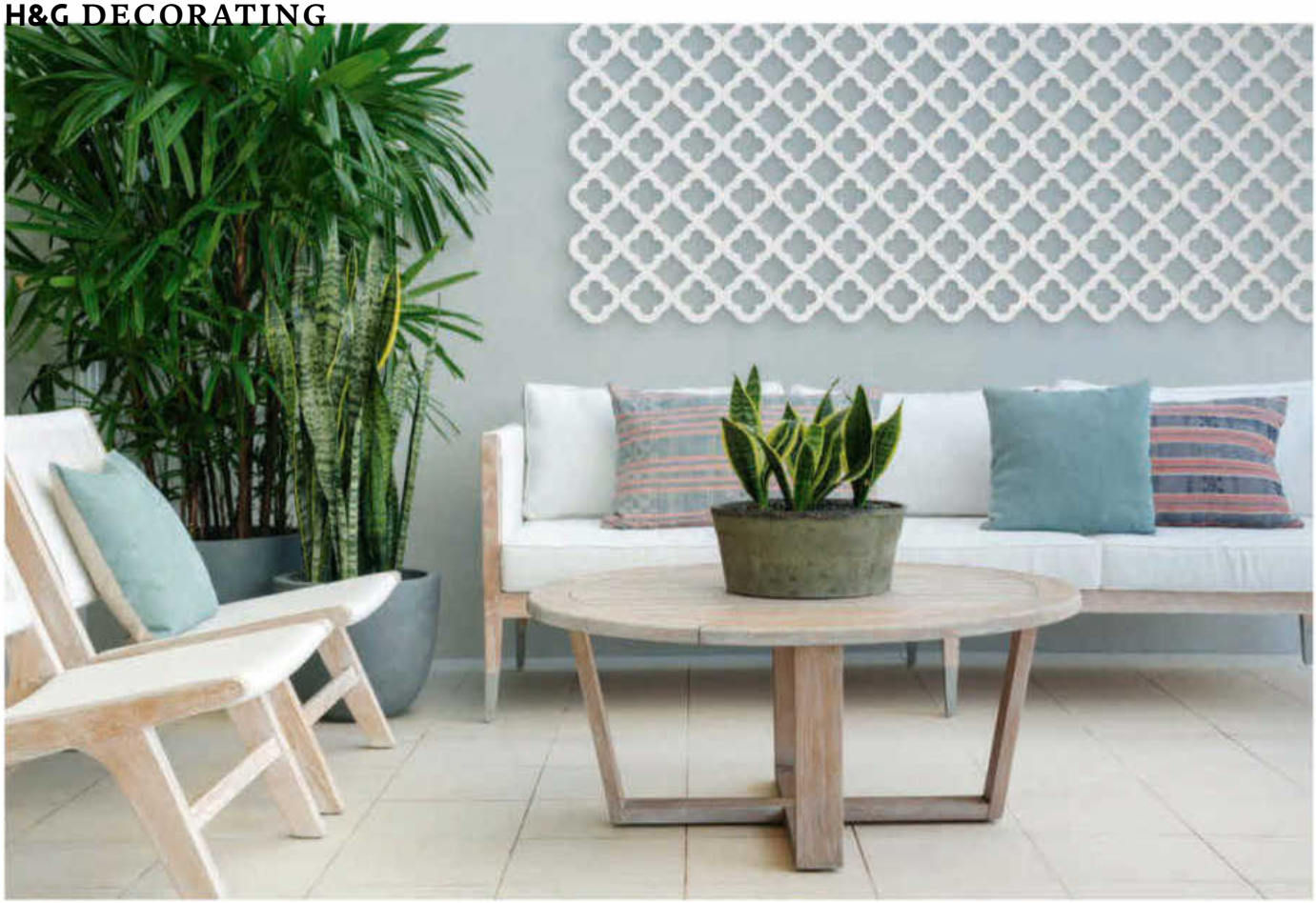
Michel, seat system designed by Antonio Citterio. www.bebitalia.com

B&B ITALIA

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spacefurniture.com



Green's the go

9 Easy-care plants forge a link between indoors and out. In the entryway and on the rear terrace, plants with elongated vertical leaves, such as mother-in-law's tongue (*Sansevieria*) and lady palm (*Rhapis excelsa*), emphasise the ceiling heights while echoing the greenery outside. "The foliage has sculptural value," says Andrew. "The *Monstera* in the living room is slightly lighter and more delicate than the *Sansevieria* to create a pattern overlay." Reef sofa, table and chairs from Globe West. Fitzgerald laser-cut screen and plants from Garden Life.

Drawing inspiration

10 Artworks include monochrome paintings and sketches that are subtle in nature so as to not intrude on the delicate palette. Examples include the *Dance of the In-Between* print above the bed in the main bedroom (right) and *Leo* on the kitchen wall, both by Craig Ruddy, as well as pencil sketches from Africa in the dining room. In the living room, a plate cluster, created by Andrew, is striking yet low-key. "The plates anchor the space and add pattern," he says. **H&G**

Andrew Waller Design, Redfern, NSW; 0422 992 676 or www.mrwaller.com.



For Where to Buy, see page 232.



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SPRING STYLE GUIDE



Style sleuth **Melissa Penfold** reveals the themes set to influence interiors this season. Choose a look and peruse these pages for buys to update your home.

Neu stoneware **plate,** $60, **mug,** $39, **platter,** $64, **small bowl,** $44, **milk jug,** $44, **pitcher,** $110, **large bowl,** $110, and Hexagon brass **plant pot,** $72, Ferm Living. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

NATURE THEME

House plants are back, newly styled as the focal point of a room. Set up a conservatory-style window ledge with well-proportioned statement plants in interesting vessels. The more diverse the containers, the more successful the result will be.

POTS & PROPS clockwise from top left Ochre concrete **planter,** $238, Hexagon brass **plant pots,** $72 (small) and $84 (large), Pale Grey concrete **plant pot,** $72, Ochre concrete **pot,** $54, Grey concrete **pot,** $60, Pale Grey concrete **planter,** $298, Grey concrete **planter,** $298, all Ferm Living. **1 /** Socker steel and plastic **greenhouse,** $20, Ikea. **2 /** Beaker glass **vessel,** $70, Freedom. **3 /** Courbe powder-coated aluminium **pendant lights,** $80/each, Citta Design. **4 /** Windsor elm and birch **dining chair,** $469, La Maison. **5 /** Monument stoneware **vase,** $191, Robert Gordon Australia. **6 /** Lyngby porcelain **vases,** $60 (10cm), $85 (12cm), $120 (15cm), $160, (20cm), $230 (25cm), and $435 (38cm), Spence & Lyda. **7 /** Footed ceramic **platter,** $59, Have You Met Miss Jones. **8 /** Ebb Tide Collection Pebble stoneware **plates** by Kim Wallace, $10-$50/each, Shelf/Life. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

'From collectable tableware to planters, rustic-leaning ceramics from brands big and small provide an instant style update for every room.'

1



2



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7



BEST BUY $10-$50

6



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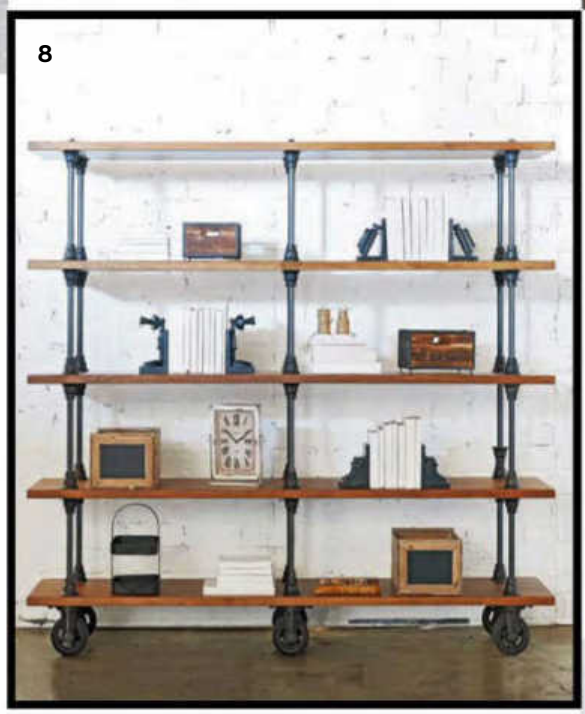
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BEST BUY $190


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INDUSTRIAL EDGE

Buy into easy, relaxed living, an aesthetic defined by spare lines and rough edges, old and new, metal and wood. It's about authenticity, quality and individuality, key themes in interiors right now.

Riva 1920 Rialto timber **tallboy,** from $7900, Fanuli. **1 /** Temple resin **salad servers,** $105/pair, Dinosaur Designs. **2 /** Greenwich Street copper **pendant light,** $868, Dunlin. **3 /** Matthew Hilton Drop brass **candleholders**, $220/each (front), Industry steel **candleholders,** $420 (small) and $435 (large), and Industry brass **candleholders,** $425/each (small) and $445 (large), Spence & Lyda. **4 /** Blythe wire and wood **baskets,** $109/set of two, Freedom. **5 /** Lattice fir **baskets,** $190/set of three, Robert Gordon Australia. **6 /** Ballard wood and iron **console table** with removable trays, $999, Perfect Pieces. **7 /** Keva sweet-indrajao wood **stool,** $299, Papaya. **8 /** Sheffield cast-iron and oak **bookcase,** $6599, Domayne. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

TEXTURE & TEXTILES

Unwind with laidback shades of grey, earthy brown, black and white. Embrace ready-made solutions in raw, honest materials such as linen, metal, timber and rattan. This is the place to start when you're in the mood to explore the mixed-material trend.

Rex steel **armchair** with feather-wrapped cushions, $1750, MCM House. **1 /** Carl Hansen & Son MK99200 beech **folding chairs** with canvas seats, $1067/each, Cult. **2 /** Telegram rope **pendant light,** about $243, Father Rabbit. **3 /** Tonk **log stool,** from $410, MCM House. **4 /** Branca Aranha beech **chair** with cane seat, $995, Domo. **5 /** Studio steel **three-seater sofa** with feather-wrapped cushions, $3450, Marle. **6 /** Menton pine **stool,** $169, La Maison. **7 /** Gunmetal Herringbone **sisal** (left), $60/m² and Belgian Bianco Mosaic **wool-sisal,** $125/m², The Natural Floorcovering Centres. **8 /** Flocca king-size linen **flat sheets,** $395/each, Hale Mercantile Co. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232. ▶

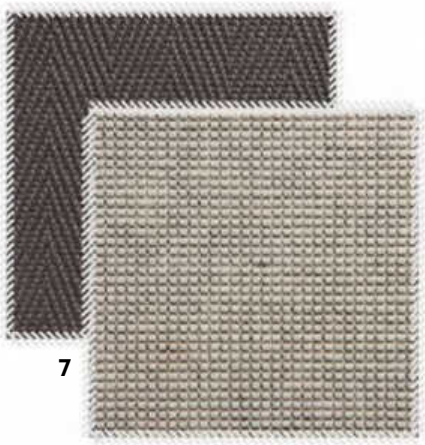



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'White is a fabulous foil to earthy colours. Weaves and washed fabrics are simply divine.'


5

BEST BUY $169

6

Currency conversion correct at time of printing.

BARE ESSENTIALS

Begin with beautiful basics and everything else will fall into place. Choose tables, tableware and linen for their beauty and practicality. In hard-wearing materials, these everyday items are for keeps.



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BEST BUY $120



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4

1 / Spun metal pedestal **side table** with marble top, $399, West Elm. **2 /** Kristine linen **pillowcases,** $69/each, Hale Mercantile Co. **3 /** Velvet Scroll velvet **cushion cover,** $39, West Elm. **4 /** Supernova stainless-steel **candleholder,** $115, Georg Jensen. **5 /** Natural mangowood **bowls,** $39/each, HK Living. **6 /** Offecct Lite chrome **chair** with laminate seat, $538, Cult. **7 /** Radial glass, MDF and oak **mirror,** (50x126cm), $359, Citta Design. **8 /** White Basics Luxurious porcelain **dinner set,** $120/20-piece set, Maxwell & Williams. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232. **H&G**



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Invite guests in with a warm, welcoming Vanilla scent

WITH LOVE

Vanilla is an indulgent and luxurious scent that is perfect for entrance ways. It encourages relaxation and sets a warm scene. Try ECOYA's Celebration candles in White Musk & Warm Vanilla.

The beautiful, fragranced candles from ECOYA can enhance every room in your home by elevating the everyday moments, enhancing emotions and evoking memories.
When you're entertaining guests, choose a warm and welcoming fragrance such as French Pear; it has the perfect balance between vanilla tones, which create a homely feeling, and the energising, uplifting aroma of fruity pear. Spice up your bedroom with Floriental (floral and oriental) fragrances such as Lotus Flower. Its blend of white lotus flower with the deeper tones of vanilla and patchouli creates a sensual and relaxing atmosphere. And, come bed time, the aroma of Sweet Pea & Jasmine will help you to sleep soundly.





The aroma of Sweet Pea & Jasmine will help you sleep



NATURE'S BEST

Australasian home-fragrance company ECOYA is guided by leading perfumers, blending the finest natural waxes with a range of unique fragrances, presenting the most luxurious home fragrance and bodycare experience. ECOYA uses soy wax in its candles, with the wax derived from sustainable soybean plantations. The wicks used in ECOYA candles are made of 100 per cent lead-free cotton. ECOYA does not use paraffin wax, hence its candles do not contain the harmful chemicals associated with the use of paraffin. ECOYA natural soy wax candles burn cooler and last three times longer than comparable paraffin wax candles.

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Floral bouquet fragrances are ideal for the home, whether you're enjoying a romantic dinner or going through your evening activities.

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MASTERCLASS #9

LIGHTING



The strength, style and colour of your lighting can make or break a room. Here are some basic principles to light your way, writes **Darren Palmer.**



Photography by Felix Forest (living rooms) from *Easy Luxury* by Darren Palmer (Murdoch Books, $39.99).

Given that the whole world is a stage, what would we do without stage lighting? Consider the drama and impact that lighting design adds to a piece of theatre. From the spotlight on a quiet moment to the floodlighting of an ensemble scene – none of these moments would be complete without the right intensity, colour and, of course, placement of light.

Your home is no different. Clearly, it's no place for a theatre stage, but there are settings for drama, for quiet reflection and for grand statements in every home. Or at least there should be. Lighting is the way to emphasise each one of these.

Let's look at the challenge of lighting from the worst- case scenario as a way to highlight (pardon the pun) some of the lighting opportunities that are missed in so many homes. Have you ever taken a look at yourself in the glow of a convenience store? It ain't flattering; in fact, it can be downright terrifying. The colour and evenly spaced overhead fluorescent lights give you an almost 'undead' pallor. The main lesson to be learned from this is to avoid overhead fluoro lighting like the plague.

The second lighting sin that's prevalent in many Australian homes is what I describe as the 'swiss cheese' effect. It's when 'even' lighting is created by spacing a number of halogen lights across the ceiling in a grid pattern. This not only ruins the nice clean surface of the ceiling, it creates evenly lit rooms with no contrasting dark spots, or corresponding bright ones either. It may seem like a good idea in principle but it makes the drama and nuance I was describing earlier unattainable. You'd see all the action, all the time. There would be no contrast, no ambience, no sense of movement or play of light and shade.

The question is, do you want your home to look like a convenience store or a stage? The way to achieve a beautifully lit home is to put the emphasis, via lighting, on special items such as paintings or plants or other significant aspects of your home.

Draw up a lighting plan that leaves darker spots, which create a more relaxed ambience. Place lighting on the top of a cupboard so it enables a soft glow to bounce off the ceiling, or set it so it flows out from underneath a bench seat or piece of furniture.



LIGHTS from left Bronze and marble **pendant,** $299, Bisque Interiors; www.bisqueinteriors.com.au. Venus Teardrop **pendant** in Black Marble, $185, Globe West; www.globewest.com.au. Asterix polished brass **light,** $11,374, Christopher Boots; www.christopherboots.com. Aspen iron **ceiling light,** $920, Laura Kincade; www.laurakincade.com. Lab 1 Light **pendant** with 330mm bowl-shaped glass shade, $169, Beacon Lighting; www.beaconlighting.com.au. Kartell Easy Metallic **pendant** in Gold, $260, Space; www.spacefurniture.com.au.

LIGHTS ARE DESIGN PIECES IN THEMSELVES SO THINK ABOUT THE FORM OF THE FITTINGS AND HOW THEY RELATE TO THE INTERIOR DESIGN.



◀ Lighting needs to be practical, too. Use step lights to illuminate the path along a hallway or up a staircase, overhead lighting to assist your cooking prep in the kitchen, and a good downlight over the bathroom basin top to give you even light for make-up application. Lighting either side of a mirror can do the same thing but is difficult to do stylishly – go for a Grace Kelly 1950s movie-star glamour rather than showgirl change room.

Lights are also design pieces in themselves so think about the form of the fittings and how they relate to the interior design, the space and the brief. In my renovation I created a staircase with a large void through the middle, which begged for a large cascading light fitting to be hung in that space. Bedrooms should also have a particular type of light fitting that suits the style of the home and works in with the styles of the lights placed elsewhere. From downlights to pendant lights and lamps, every light needs to work as part of the overall scheme.

Lighting is an extremely important part of every well-finished and considered interior, so take the time to look for opportunities to create impact and highlight features you want noticed while masking or downplaying less-attractive aspects. Avoid lighting your home in an evenly spaced grid pattern. Rather, delight in the effect when each area is treated differently. **H&G**

To hear more lighting tips from Darren, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.

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TRENDS

STEP INTO SPRING

Celebrate spring's arrival by planting lovely leaves about your home. On artwork, upholstery, or in print, the colour and movement of foliage brings an air of calm indoors.



1 / Jagged Little Ananas **print on canvas** (40x55cm), $120, Urban Road; 0408 345 488 or www.urbanroad.com.au. **2 /** Bloomingville Botanical cotton **cushion** in Flowers on Cream (45x45cm), $80, French Bazaar; (03) 9017 7892 or www.frenchbazaar.com.au. **3 /** Botanic tall clay **vase** in Cactus, $99, Have You Met Miss Jones; (02) 9310 7377 or www.haveyoumetmissjones.com.au. **4 /** Michael Aram Botanical Leaf stainless-steel **cheese knife set,** $109, David Jones; 133 357 or www.davidjones.com.au. **5 /** Palm Leaf Tropical Circle barkcloth and ceramic **lamp** (20x30cm), $225, Homeworks Design Store; 0418 299 330 or www.homeworksdesignstore.com. **6 /** Bulb Wattle glazed-porcelain **vase,** $89, Angus & Celeste; (03) 9752 4004 or www.angusandceleste.com.au. **7 /** *Herbarium I* faux-bamboo **framed print** (78x59cm), $650, Gaudion Furniture; (03) 9533 6422 or www.gaudions.com.au. **8 /** Beaumont wenge **occasional chair** upholstered in cotton Baker Ferns fabric, $3745, Coco Republic; (02) 9318 1442 or www.cocorepublic.com.au. **9 /** Curcuma **artificial plant** (60cm), $188, Voyager Interiors; (03) 9208 0600 or www.voyagerinteriors.com.au in an Eden Premium Cache plastic **self-watering pot** (28cm), $33, Bunnings; (03) 8831 9777 or www.bunnings.com.au. **H&G**

Produced by Kayla Gex.

TRENDS

LASER TAG

As enticing as lace but with a sharper edge, laser-cuts are changing the face of homewares. The whole be damned – cut it out to be cool.



1 / Chippy enamelled stainless-steel **pendant lights** in White and Black, $589/each, Volker Haug; (03) 9387 1803 or www.volkerhaug.com. **2 /** GardenWall powder-coated steel **planters** (60x23x55cm) in Block, $290/each, Tait; (02) 9310 1333 or www.madebytait.com.au. **3 /** Hedda iron **lamp** in Antique Brass, $955, Boyd Blue; (07) 5527 0899 or www.boydblue.com. **4 /** E15 Charlotte oak-veneer **coffee table** in Mint, $1225, Living Edge; 1300 132 154 or www.livingedge.com.au. **5 /** Ascot Parque natural ash-veneer **buffet,** $2150, Globe West; 1800 722 366 or www.globewest.com.au. **6 /** Muuto The More The Merrier rubber and steel **candleholder,** $149, Living Edge; 1300 132 154 or www.livingedge.com.au. **7 /** Giddyup plywood and repurposed leather saddle **rocking stool,** about $866, Designtree; www.designtree.co.nz. **8 /** Swazi metal and mangowood **lantern** in Beluga, $80, Eb&Ive; www.ebandive.com.au. **9 /** Honeybee Goods Flock timber-veneer **clock,** $190, Down That Little Lane; downthatlittlelane.com.au. **10 /** Banksia Nut rusted-steel outdoor **screen** (240cmx120cm), $2190, Entanglements; 1300 886 811 or www.entanglements.com.au. **H&G**

Produced by Ashley Pratt. Stylist's assistant Sarah Maloney. Currency conversion is correct at time of printing.

OFFICEWORKS PROMOTION

LOVE YOUR WORKSPACE

You'll be more productive and creative in a workspace that is both practical and stylish. Check out these great tips from Officeworks…



it's all in the details – think trinkets and fresh-cut flowers

enhance your workspace with task lighting

organise your stationery with desktop accessories

78%

of people who work from home would like to redesign their workspace



*All results used for this campaign were obtained from an independent national online survey of 1011 people who either own or operate a small business and/or work from home as part of their main occupation.

REVAMP YOUR ROOM

A fresh coat of paint can completely transform a room. A palette of cool grey and black will keep it sophisticated. Add a personal touch with artworks.

KEEP YOUR SPACE MINIMAL

Think about how you'll use your space, then get rid of all the stuff you don't need. Keeping your workspace clutter-free will aid productivity.

MAKE IT INSPIRING

Store your favourite magazines in a holder near your desk for quick reference. Greenery in a fun planter is a great way to bring your workspace to life.

PRIORITISE STORAGE

Drawers, baskets, trays, folders… you can never have too many! Stack them on, or under, your desk to save space and keep files organised.





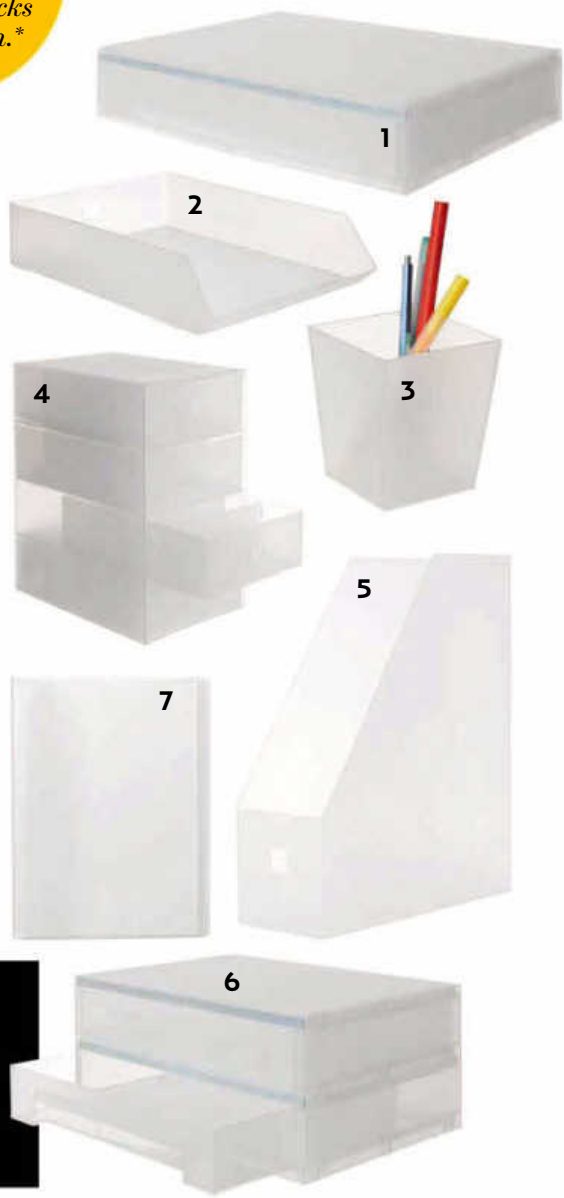
MAKE IT PERSONAL

Your workspace is where you express your creativity. Start with great basics like these translucent accessories and have fun incorporating your favourite decorative pieces.

64% *said their home workspace lacks organisation.**

INSPIRED BUYS

1 / A3 Frosted PP Landscape Drawer, $29.99. **2 /** Frosted PP Document Tray, $9.99. **3 /** Frosted PP Pen Cup, $7.99. **4 /** 4 High Frosted PP Storage Drawers, $29.99. **5 /** Wide Frosted PP Magazine File, $14.99. **6 /** 2 High A4 Frosted PP Landscape Drawers, $29.99. **7 /** A4 Frosted PP 40 Pocket Display Book, $6.99.





Frosted stationery accessories work perfectly with this look, mix them with timber and blacks for workspace sophistication.

90% *of people think their home office lacks style**

SHOPPING TIP

Planning is key. Knowing where all your items are stored will make shopping for your workspace a breeze.

For more great office and work-life inspiration visit **worklife.msn.com**

Officeworks



Love where you work by styling it your way.

Find inspiration at officeworks.com.au/workstyle

A. Elapse 30cm Clock **$20** CWELAPSCLK **B.** Sorrento Credenza **$249** OTSORRCRED
C. Sorrento Desk **$176** OTSORRDESK **D.** Nash Desk Lamp **$95** MERNALAMCH
E. Sorrento 2 Drawer Pedestal **$119** OTSORR2PED

Officeworks
Big ideas. Lowest prices.

Printed for 03/08/2015. Not all services and products featured are available in all stores but may be ordered. Most furniture on this page comes flat-packed, ready to assemble. Display accessories not included. OWO1445_HG



At home with interior designer Greg Natale

INSIDER

NEWS & REVIEWS / DESIGN MOMENT / GREEN THUMB / HOW TO SHOP FOR...

Styling by Kayla Gex. Photograph by Will Horner. Artwork by Scott Petrie.

GREG NATALE
interior designer

The apartment Greg shares with his partner Jason in Sydney's east showcases his penchant for pattern and flair for combining colours.







THINGS I LOVE
(see previous page)

Wallpaper The design is called Iota and it's part of my collection for Porter's Paints.
Artworks I commissioned Scott Petrie to do the painting [above the sofa]. It really pops against the blacks and whites. The framed print is by Keith Haring.
Sofa From Minotti. I love the craftsmanship, comfort level, and the fact it's compact.
Armchair Another Minotti find, this Blake-Soft chair is both smart and super comfy.
Table lamp A piece I found in Los Angeles. I fell in love with it as soon as I saw it.
Coffee table A great piece from Jonathan Adler.
Wall clock A design by Fratelli Campana for Alessi. I had it gold plated.
Black and white box A cherished gift from talented designer Stacey Kouros, who started out with me years ago.
Blue agate coasters I picked these up at West Elm.
Cushions From my new collection for One Duck Two, available from September.
Carpet From my collection for Designer Rugs, this design is called Tokyo.
www.gregnatale.com.

WHERE GREG SHOPS FOR...
HOMEWARES: BECKER MINTY, MACLEAY ON MANNING.
FURNITURE: DEDECE. **GIFTS:** LIVING EDGE. **BOOKS:** ARIEL, BERKELOUW BOOKS.



CRYSTAL CLEAR
Light up your life with the Crystal Bulb pendant light, $520/each, by Lee Broom. The gilt fittings and cut-crystal bulbs are dazzlingly gorgeous. sebastianalexander.com.au.



Serve up some spring treats on the new Botanical Collection from Bonnie and Neil. Our pick of the bunch are these pretty plates, from $45/each. www.bonnieandneil.com.au.

Text by Christina Gee. Styling by Heather Nette King (plates). Photograph by Lauren Bamford (plates).

STORY OF A BRAND
Weber

1952
George Stephen invents the kettle barbecue in the US.



1978
Ross McDonald (on right) distributes the Weber in Australia.



1985
The Genesis is the first gas model to emulate charcoal cooking. ▶




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every good
sleeper
is a great
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◀ Designed by *The Block* twins Alisa and Lysandra, the limited-edition Asta bedroom furniture promises sweet dreams, Scandinavian style. We're loving the pretty pastels, blond wood and rose gold details. Four-piece queen suite from $4996. www.fortywinks.com.au.





BLOOMIN' LOVELY

Just in time for spring comes this Racine chandelier, featuring a gorgeous cascade of cherry blossoms. It's from Domo's new Canopy Designs collection. $2350; www.domo.com.au.

MEET OTTO, THE RETRO-FANTASTIC NEW CHAIR FROM MELBOURNE DESIGN STUDIO SOMETHING BEGINNING WITH. FROM $2090; WWW.SOMETHINGBEGINNINGWITH.COM.AU.





Freshen up your decor with Indigo Garden and Avocado Dash, two new prints by artist Georgia Macmillan featured on pure linen cushion covers, $85/each. georgiamacmillanpaints.com.



RUG UP

The joyful colours and energetic pattern of the cotton-blend Flux rug (1.5x2.2m), $375, will enliven any room. It's part of Dare Gallery's 20th birthday collection. www.daregallery.com.au. ▶

1988
The Complete Australian Barbecue Kettle Cookbook is released.



2003
Weber Q introduces Australia to lid-down gas barbecuing.



2012
The Premium Gas Genesis E330 wins multiple awards.



2015
The first built-in Weber, the Family Q Built, is launched.





Soft hues, romantic blooms and intricate geometrics make for a swoon-worthy spring/summer collection from Designers Guild. www.designersguild.com.

DOMESTIC BLISS

Blossom magic

Whether it's a fragrant bouquet in a vase or a 17th-century still life, flowers are often used to bring nature into an interior. Japanese art collective teamLab is reversing this idea, however, and bringing the gallery into a digital forest. Entering one of the wraparound video environments is like being swallowed by the wallpaper or swimming inside a painting by Bonnard. Flowers in the 21st century are so often viewed ironically. A modernist interior usually features a floral 'moment' such as a richly upholstered chair or a feature wall, but in this context, the total immersion created by teamLab is both anti-minimal and strangely refreshing. TeamLab's work *Flowers and People – Gold* (below) seems to beckon viewers into the garden and invite them to stay awhile. See teamLab's installation at Martin Browne Contemporary gallery in Paddington, NSW, until August 16 and again at the Sydney Contemporary Art Fair on September 10-12. – *Anna Johnson*



BLOG

The Socialite Family peeks inside the trés chic homes of creative types in Paris, London, New York and Milan. The best part? Shopable links to help you recreate the looks. thesocialitefamily.com/en.

READ Presented as a room-by-room manual, *Design Mom* by Gabrielle Stanley Blair (Workman Books, $59.95) is packed with advice on subjects ranging from stylish yet family-friendly decorating to travelling with kids.





VISIT

Perth's Alex Hotel, designed by architect Michael Patroni with interiors by Arent & Pyke, is set to become the city's best new destination. Beyond the 74 thoughtfully designed bedrooms, travellers (and locals) can eat, drink or relax in a choice of lounges, bars and terraces. alexhotel.com.au.

WATCH Reignite a love of theatre with Sydney Theatre Company's *Arms and the Man* (right). 14 September-31 October. sydneytheatre.com.au.



SEE Storm in a Teacup, at Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, explores Aussie attitudes to tea. Until 27 September. mprg.mornpen.vic.gov.au. H&G





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DESIGN MOMENT

VOLA TAPWARE

Presented with a revolutionary idea for plumbing, a design icon went with the flow, writes Chris Pearson.

The year was 1961 and renowned Danish designer Arne Jacobsen had just won a competition to design the new National Bank of Denmark. His winning proposal, a concrete cube punctuated with vertical strips of glazing, was monumental yet minimalist, with exquisite attention to detail.

Verner Overgaard, owner of Vola A/S, was contracted to fit out the bank's kitchens and bathrooms and took his idea for a new tap, a single-lever mixer with its less-appealing working parts concealed, directly to Jacobsen. Jacobsen took on the design challenge and the rest is history.

Unveiled in 1968, the wall-mounted Vola 111 and its companions, the HV1 basin mixer and KV1 sink mixer, elevated a purely utilitarian product to a practical work of art. Vola had tapped into the zeitgeist, with all three mixers going on to win a raft of international awards. In 1974, Jacobsen's designs for Vola were selected for the Design Collection at New York's Museum of Modern Art.

"Vola taps are the most iconic taps in the world," says Marc Reed of Candana Bathroomware, the local representative for the brand. "We love it, as do interior designers and architects. It is the most architecturally recognised tap in history." It had plenty of time to cement its position – the company took out a 30-year patent on the ingenious single-lever design. Since the patent expired in 1998, about 200 companies worldwide have released taps that work on similar principles, says Reed.



Arne Jacobsen



1968

The sleek wall-mounted Vola 111, the design that started it all.



1968

The KV1 sink mixer is hailed a work of art.



1970s

On-trend colours make a splash in kitchens and bathrooms.



1980s-'90s

Black and gold options add sophistication.



Current

The HV1M basin mixer retains the look of the original HV1 but is far more water-efficient.

The original Vola taps were grey to match the austere colour scheme of the bank, but in the 1970s, the company introduced a rainbow of colours. In the 1970s and '80s, blingy finishes such as gold and gloss black became de rigueur in Australia, says Reed. In the '90s, the favoured finish was matt black, a colour that now comprises 30 per cent of all the Vola tapware sold at Candana Bathroomware. Chrome, Vola's signature finish, makes up nearly a quarter of taps sold, while the balance consists mainly of bronze, brass and brushed stainless steel. Worldwide, however, chrome still accounts for about 70 per cent of sales.

While fashions for finishes ebb and flow, Jacobsen's designs haven't changed a jot in nearly half a century – on the surface, anyway. In 1989, Vola replaced its rubber washers with a more durable ceramic disc cartridge, while thermostatic mixers were introduced in 1999. And today's taps carry a five-star WELS rating, with a flow rate of 5.5L/min.

"Vola is the original and the best," says interior designer Sarah-Jane Pyke of Arent&Pyke. She has been a fan of Vola since she began in the business in the late 1990s. Her fave finish? Brushed stainless steel or brass, which develops a beautiful patina over time.

WHAT IT MEANS TO US

"Celebrating continuity, celebrating change" is the Vola slogan. And, extraordinarily, the tap that started it all, the HV1, remains in production at Vola HQ in Horsens, Denmark, with each tap painstakingly finished by hand, as Jacobsen would have wished. Unchanged on the surface, but also subtly shifting with the times, it remains ever-fresh. "Our clients think the HV1 is a brand new design. They're always shocked when we tell them how old it is," says Pyke. **H&G Candana Bathroomware; (02) 9389 8631 or www.candana.com.au.**

All images courtesy of The Vola Gallery.

AIR WICK

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GREEN THUMB

KIM HAMILTON

When it comes to her love for plants, second-generation cacti- and succulent-grower Kim is straight to the point.

When did cacti and succulents become part of your life? I was six when Mum started her cactus garden. All the cacti she loved were best suited to growing under cover so my parents built a glasshouse. They joined The Cactus and Succulent Society of NSW and started growing cacti seeds. In 1981 they decided to make a business out of their hobby, which they did initially from our suburban Sydney backyard.

Did you always share your parents' passion? I had my own small collection of cacti as a child and would enter them in the Society's shows. I still have my first cactus, an *Astrphytum ornatum*, which I got when I was seven.

What do you love about cacti and succulents? I love them for their weird shapes and glorious flowers. The spine formation of some plants is exceptional, with all the spines lining up in a neat row. Some succulents have perfumed flowers.

What's a common misconception about cacti? I think the biggest misconception is that they don't need watering. A cactus body is made up of at least 90-per-cent water. Potted plants require water at least once every 7–10 days in spring and summer as long as they are in well-drained potting media.

Cacti and succulents are popular right now. Do you see this trend continuing? Yes. Thanks to smaller backyards and apartment living, there has been a surge in potted gardens. Cacti and succulents are perfect for this.

How many plants do you have in your nursery? We have between 500,000 and 1 million plants at any one time, on 1.6ha.

Can you name a favourite? One of my favourites is a cactus called *Espostoa*. These plants are native to the Andes mountain range in South America and are covered with white hair. The hair looks like cotton wool yet it's deceptive as there are spines underneath the wool. They also have white flowers.

Quirkiest plant? There are so many, but I love the *Echinocactus grusonii* var. *brevispinus*, a variation on the golden barrel cactus or mother-in-law's chair. Usually this cactus has 20–50mm long spines, but this variety has very short spines or none at all.

Do you ever get cactus-inflicted injuries? I often get spiked — that's just a hazard of the job. Sometimes I feel the spines go in; they really hurt! My niece has been around the plants since she was six months old and among her first words were 'cactus' and 'ouch!'. **H&G**

Kim is the proprietor of Hamilton's World of Cacti, Llandilo, NSW; (02) 4777 4876 or www.hamiltonscacti.com.au. She's also secretary of The Cactus and Succulent Society of NSW.

To hear more of Kim's cacti tips, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.



KIM'S FAVOURITE...



Gardening tools Band-Aids, strong gloves and tweezers!

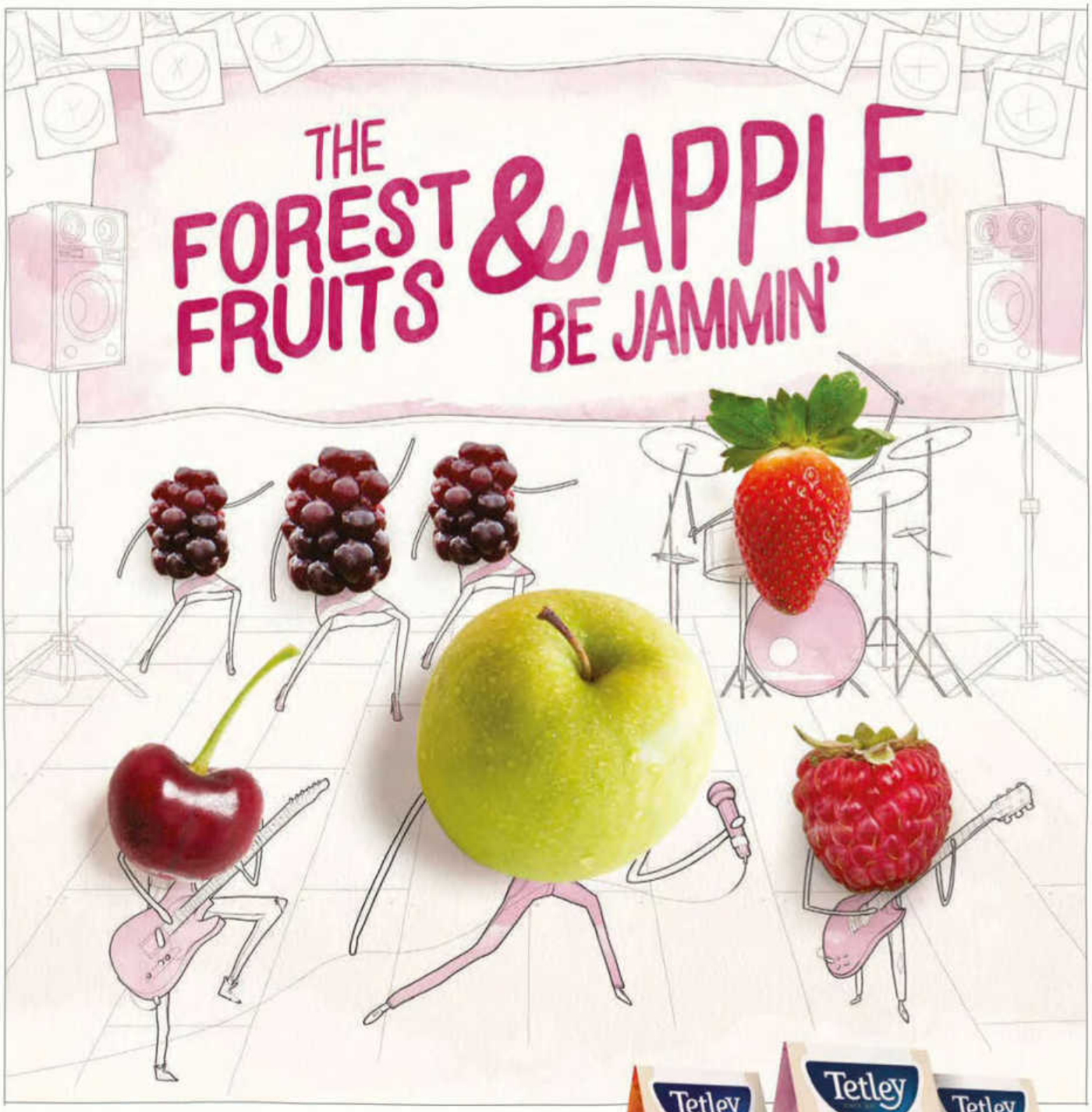


Book A series by Rudolf Schulz and Attila Kapitany.



Garden-related gift to give Succulents or cacti in quirky pots.

Produced by Elizabeth Wilson. Photography by John Paul Urizar (portrait) & Robin Heartfield/bauersyndication.com.au (gloves). Triangle planter from LoveHate; www.lovehate.com.au.



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HOW TO SHOP FOR

POTS & PLANTERS

A worthy vessel will beautify your home outside or in, says garden designer and author **Richard Unsworth.**

PLOT YOUR POT Consider where your pot will be located. Are you looking for a statement or hero piece? Something imposing with definite wow factor? Or perhaps it's more about functionality. For example, do you need slimline troughs to create privacy on a balcony?

WHAT'S YOUR PERSONAL STYLE? Think about your personal aesthetic and the interior/exterior of your home. Is it contemporary and slick, or traditional and formal? Look for a pot to match. Above all, you need to choose a piece that you love, one that resonates with you.

MATTERS OF SCALE Your pot needs to be size-appropriate for your space, but be bold in terms of scale. If in doubt, always go for the larger size. The last thing you want to do in a confined space is to use lots of little pots, as this will just make the space look cluttered and seem even smaller. Go for either one big specimen or a simple group of three.

GROUP MENTALITY If you are buying a cluster of pots, it's important to mix the textures and sizes in order to create an interesting composition. Try three different sizes in three compatible textures. I recommend using pots in the same colour – personally, I love white – but in different textures. A slick and shiny fibreglass cylinder teamed with an old, lime-washed Turkish planter and a glazed Moroccan oil jar, for example, would make a perfect combination.

CAREFUL WITH COLOUR Avoid strong primary colours, which can be jarring to the eye and draw too much attention to the pot. If you want some colour contrast, choose a soft shade such as buttermilk, dark chocolate or white.

INVESTOR ADVICE It's worth investing money in a hero piece for a prominent location. Use less expensive pots for more functional areas; in these spaces you want to look at the plants inside the pots rather than at the pots themselves.

FAVOURITE MATERIALS I am in love with terracotta. I think it's a classic, underrated material that needs to come back into our gardens. I especially love big, hand-thrown terracotta pots that will age gracefully in the sun.

RIGHT NOW, I'M LOVING... Some beautiful, authentic old Indian planters we have at Garden Life. Originally used as cooking pots, they are solid brass and full of history, with great texture and patina, and will last forever. They look great indoors, planted with a *Monstera* or a big pot of aspidistra.

AND REMEMBER... Always buy the best available potting mix and ensure that the pot is raised off the ground for good drainage. Rather than using feet, I use pieces of 10mm-thick compressed rubber to raise a pot. It creates an interesting shadow line at the base. H&G

Richard is creative director of Sydney landscape design firm and garden accessories retailer Garden Life; (02) 9517 3633 or www.gardenlife.com.au.

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Photograph by Nicholas Watt.

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COVER PAGE: **BEDROOM FURNITURE** Trio Bunk Bed, $599. **MANCHESTER** Creative Colours Naughts & Crosses in Lime Single Quilt Cover Set*², $69.95; Double Quilt Cover Set*², $79.95; Creative Colours 250TC Sheet Set in White Single Sheet Set*¹, $49.95; Double Sheet Set*¹, $59.95. THIS PAGE: **BEDROOM FURNITURE** Metz Single Mini Sleeper Bed, $1099; Metz Tallboy, $499; Metz Wardrobe, $549. **MANCHESTER** Creative Colours Around The World Single Quilt Cover Set*², $79.95; Creative Colours 250TC Single Sheet Set*¹ in White, $49.95. **FLOORING** Rug Medium 160x230 Cottage, $299.

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BEDROOM FURNITURE Cooper Single Bed, $549; Cooper Tallboy, $899; Cooper Bedside Table, $349. **MANCHESTER** Designers Choice Cooper Blue Single Quilt Cover Set*2, $99; Jensen Blue Printed Single Sheet Set*1, $99; Navigate Grey Square Cushion, $32; All by Designers Choice. **DECORATOR** Harper Silver Bedside Lamp, $49; Ryker Yellow Bedside Lamp, $109. **FLOORING** Rug Medium 160x230 Mandalay, $699.

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BEDROOM FURNITURE Gem Bedside Table, $549; Adelle King Single Bed, $1299; Gem Tallboy, $1099. **MANCHESTER** Hiccups Naturals Meadow White Double Quilt Cover Set*[2], $149.95; Creative Colours 250TC King Single Sheet Set in Pink*[1], $59.95; L'Avenue Cotton Single Blanket in Charcoal, $69.95; Floral Felt Cushion in Pink, $39.95; Heringbone Square Cushion in Blue, $19.95; Ava Cushion in Pink, $34.95; All by L'Avenue. **DECORATOR** Indie Trinket Box, $9.95ea; Harry Pendant, $399; Manning Copper Bedside Lamp, $99.

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BEDROOM FURNITURE Calypso Single Bed, $299. **MANCHESTER** Creative Colours Polly Paisley Single Quilt Cover Set*2, $59.95; Creative Colours 250TC Single Sheet Set in Pink*1, $49.95; L'Avenue Sunny Pop Cushions in Green, Blue and Sunshine, $24.95ea. **DECORATOR** Dylan Pale Blue Stool, $99; Manning Midnight Blue Bedside Lamp, $99.

KIDS' ROOMS

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*1 Single sheet sets consist of 1x fitted sheet, 1x flat sheet and 1x standard pillowcase. Double sheet sets consist of 1x fitted sheet, 1x flat sheet and 2x standard pillowcases.

*2 Single quilt cover sets consist of 1x quilt cover and 1x standard pillowcase. Double quilt cover sets consist of 1x quilt cover and 2x standard pillowcases.

90 VICTORIA
This updated Melbourne home reflects its architect-owner's eye for detail.

98 ACT
A 'thing' for Hamptons style shaped this Canberra new-build and the result is breezy and beautiful.

106 NSW
In a historical Sydney building, this apartment's elegant interiors and graceful parterre garden are a cut above.

114 WA
A lifetime collector layers her wares in a beautifully restored Perth home.

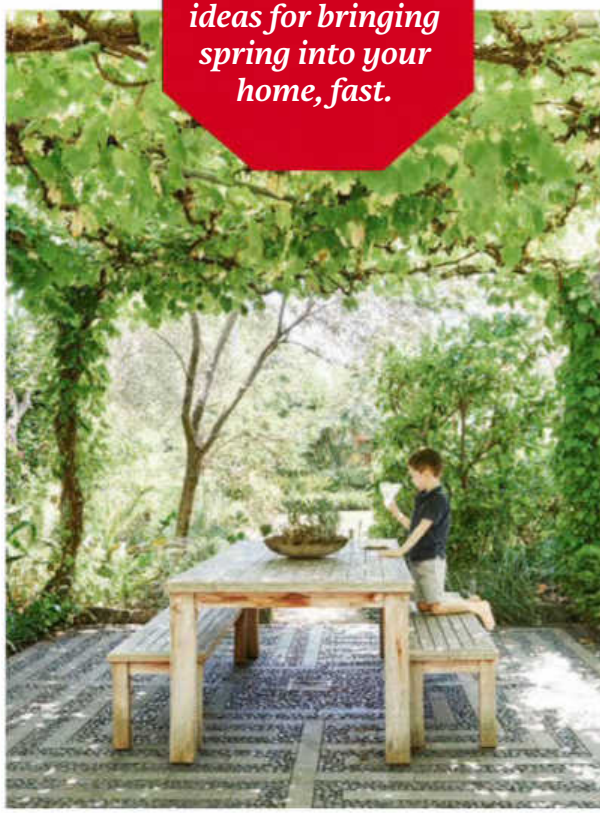
122 VICTORIA
A landmark garden paved the way for an outward-looking renovation this family adores.







40+ pages of ideas for bringing spring into your home, fast.





HOUSES

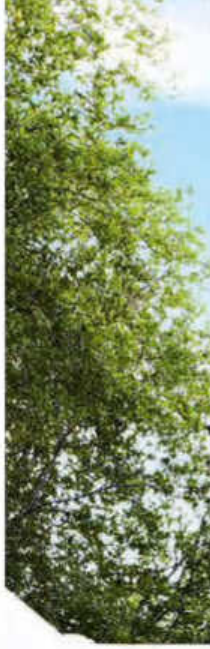
LET THERE BE LIGHT



OPEN SESAME

A clever design and love of garden views have shaped this Melbourne home around its family.

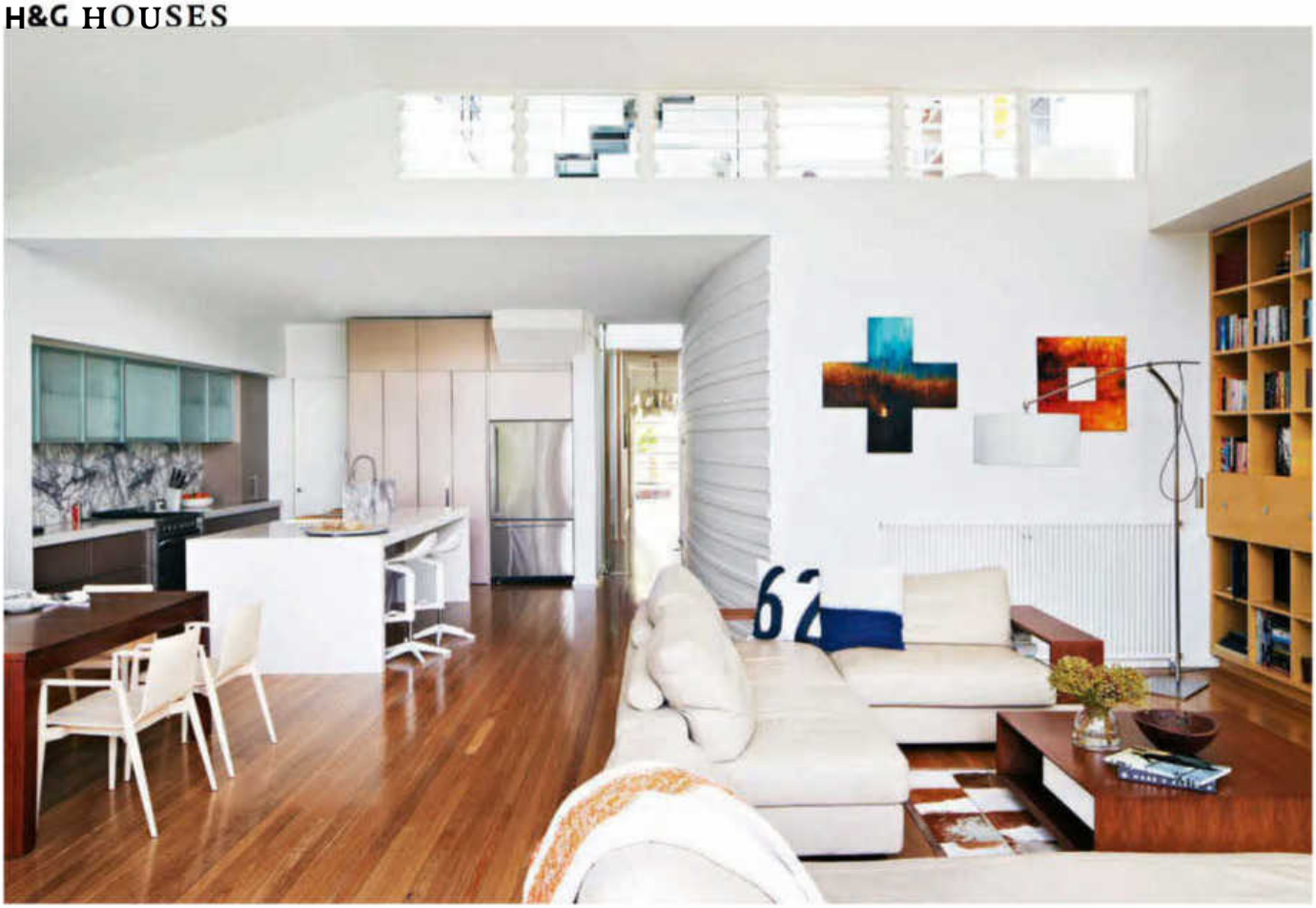
STORY **STEPHEN CRAFTI** / STYLING **JUDY OSTERGAARD** / PHOTOGRAPHY **ARMELLE HABIB**







ENTRANCE / A glass-walled vestibule has been added to the Victorian-era facade to provide views to the front garden.
REAR DECK / The rear extension suits everyone, says owner, architect Jon Mikulic, pictured with his wife Vanessa, daughters Ava (left) and Jemima and miniature schnauzers Daisy and Murphy.
Smart buy: Egg rattan hanging chair, $379, Milan Direct. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



Victorian houses can be somewhat predictable. There's often a white picket fence at the front with a path leading to a timber door. However, predictability wasn't something architect Jon Mikulic and his wife, Vanessa, a fashion agent, wanted for their Armadale home. For a start, their property is concealed behind a high timber-batten fence, beyond which a glass-encased vestibule marks the entrance to their home. Its purpose is to allow the front garden to be appreciated from inside.

The elevated Japanese maples and different ground surfaces in the garden are loosely connected to the idea of a bento box. The glass entry, with a large pivot door to one side, also has a Japanese aesthetic. "I wanted people to pause when they arrive, to take off their coats and put their umbrellas down before they enter the house proper," says Jon, director of Newline Design.

A peep past the louvred french doors that separate the entry from the original central passage reveals more of the unexpected. The front rooms have been opened up to form one large space, which is used by Vanessa as the office for her company, VM Agency. Another two rooms that lead off the passage, still located within the Victorian footprint, are bedrooms for the couple's daughters, Jemima, 17, and Ava, 14. The area beyond these rooms, housing the main bedroom with ensuite, living area, kitchen, and dining zone, is new.

"The house had been rented for years and the rear was essentially a series of lean-tos with little consideration for the north-facing garden," says Jon. However, rather than add a glass extension at the back, ▶

For a video home tour and interview with Jon, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.



LIVING / Jon designed all the joinery and wall treatments in this area. Patchwork cowhide rug, NSW Leather. Dining table and chairs, PGR Furniture. Artwork by Penelope Long. **Smart buy:** Jasper sofa in Viva leather, $7866, King Living.

KITCHEN / Deeply veined Turkish marble energises the mostly white scheme. New York Premium marble, Attila's Natural Stone & Tiles. Stools, Space. Built-in banquette with storage and mirrored kickboard, Newline Design. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

This is the life

"We wanted a contemporary family home that embraced the garden," says Jon. "It was also important to have a separate area for Vanessa to run her business." Given the pitch of the original slate roof, there was enough space to build a first-floor living room, which sits above the bedroom in the new section. "Everyone has their own space, but we still congregate around the kitchen bench," he says.

'The grain of the marble reminds me of the trees in the garden.'

Jon Mikulic, owner/architect





THE PALETTE

Dulux Natural White
interiors, throughout

Dulux Domino
vestibule window frames

Add a dash of

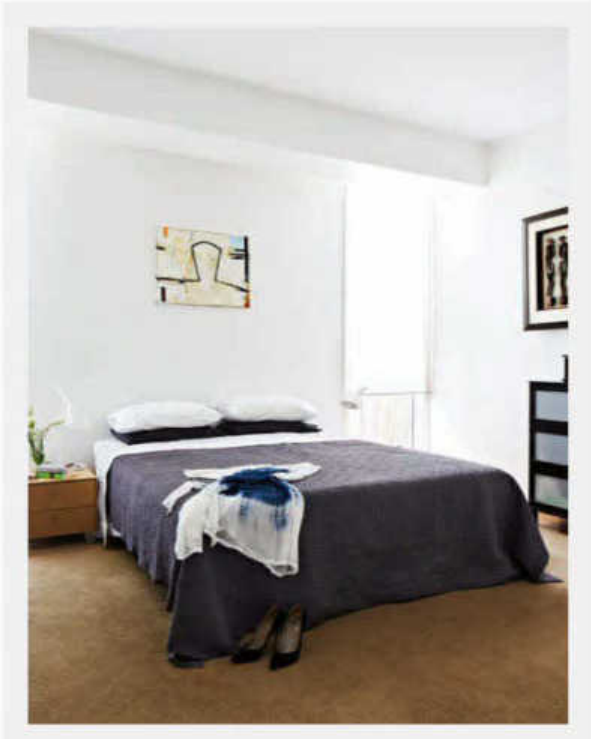
Taubmans Vanquished

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.

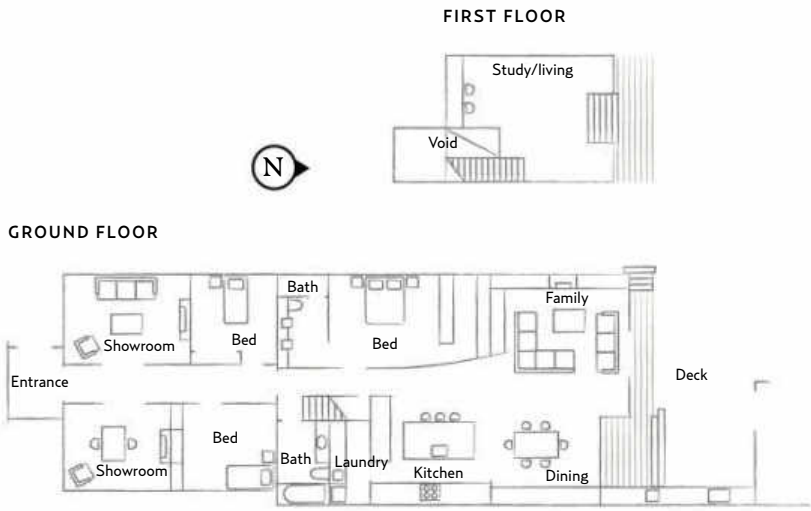
'Vanessa's office and showroom interact with each other through the expansive archways, making one room with a central light fitting and art at either end.' Jon



SHOWROOM AND OFFICE / Hidden cavity doors allow these rooms to revert back to the formal living room and study when required. Desk, Aero Designs. Eames chairs, Luke Furniture. Recycled-tallowwood floorboards. Artwork by Cassandra Laing.
Designer buy: Ingo Maurer Zettel'z 6 light, from $1440, Space.
MAIN BEDROOM / Jon designed this room so light pours in on either side of the bed and the walk-in wardrobe to the right muffles sound from the adjacent living area. Quilt, West Elm. Bedlinen, Country Road. Artwork by Graham Fransella.
ENSUITE / A dappled Caesarstone vanity top picks up the colour of the joinery, which is painted in a copper shade. Pietra silver limestone wall tiles and grey limestone floor tiles, Lifestiles. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



THE LAYOUT





◀ he decided to slowly reveal contemporary touches. He achieved this by having the white walls throughout the house culminate in a curved wall at the kitchen. Made from skirting boards and architraves remnants applied in stripes of varying widths, it's an eye-catching feature. Also in the kitchen, a deeply veined marble strip extends along the opposite wall, through the dining area to the deck. "I'm a stickler for detail," says Jon, pointing out how the marble splashback relates to the island bench's privacy screen. "The grain matches perfectly."

The renovation also includes a mezzanine-style living area for the girls, which doubles as a study. Louvred windows open up this floor to the back garden, delivering light and cross ventilation. The main living space has large stacking, as well as bifold, doors to the garden, where the focal point is a cluster of oakleaf hydrangeas.

For Jon, the challenge of designing his own home was "focusing on one idea at a time", which was tricky given that he was in the enviable position of being able to change direction as new ideas came to mind. When all is said and done, however, the family is thrilled he made changes along the way because their home has turned out to be so dynamic. "It's like a jewellery box with these wonderful compartments to explore," he says. **H&G**

Newline Design, Prahran, Victoria; (03) 9521 4144 or www.newlinedesign.com.au. Rae Jones-Evans Landscape Design, Glen Iris, Victoria; (03) 9809 4958.

Let there be light

Interacting with both the front and back gardens was important to Jon, who chose the marble for the living room based on its likeness to tree branches. Jon also loves the hallway's sense of journey to the greenery at the back of the house. In the warmer months, the back of the house is opened up almost entirely, drawing the family out to various relaxing, eating and entertaining zones, delineated by different flooring types and the pergola.



FRONT GARDEN / The contrast between the glass vestibule and the white timber wall panels creates a dramatic entrance. Black slate foyer tiles, red honed-sandstone and black slate crazy pavers, Lifestiles.
REAR PATIO / In addition to the marble frieze, built-in seating transitions the living room to the deck. Table and benches, PGR Furniture. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

FEATURE PLANTS

FRONT GARDEN
Coral bark maple (*Acer palmatum* 'Senkaki')
Honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)
Weeping lilly pilly
BACK GARDEN
Hydrangea quercifolia
Star jasmine



ENTRANCE / Lachlan and Louie the spoodle are on hand to welcome visitors. Cobblefield cultured-stone cladding, Boral. Wall sconce, Southside Lighting. Tiles, Rivoland.
OUTDOOR ROOM / Homeowner Claire and her daughter Tara take advantage of cool cross-breezes in the outdoor room. Plantation shutters, BASC (throughout). Dining table, Rodney's Plants Plus. Chairs, Villa Maison (discontinued).
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

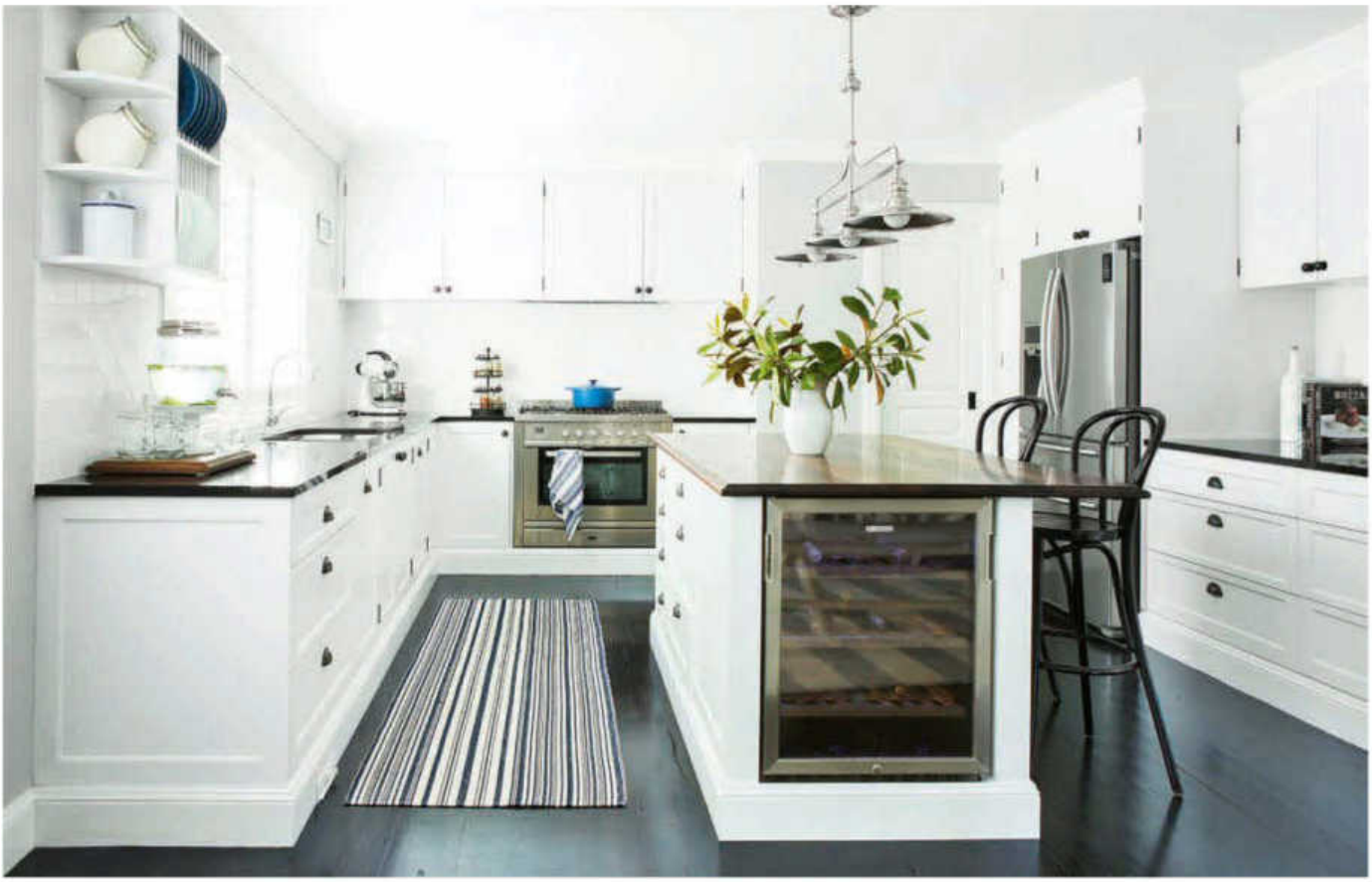
Text by Monique Meijer.



Long Island DREAMING

Family friendly and an entertainer's delight, this Canberra abode also fulfils its owners' yearning to bring a taste of the Hamptons home.

STYLING **KATE NIXON** / PHOTOGRAPHY **MAREE HOMER**



Claire and her family are frequent visitors to the US and have many fond memories of lazy summers spent on New York's Long Island. Little wonder then that this Hamptons-esque home in the heart of Canberra has them feeling like they're living their holiday dream.

In 2009, Claire and her husband found the ideal location for their forever home: an 882m² block in a leafy neighbourhood, close to work and schools. The existing house, however, was not so impressive and the decision was made to knock down and rebuild from scratch.

The couple already had a clear vision of the core design elements, from the pitch of the roof right down to the tapware, so they turned to Jefferson Godfrey Architects and builders Sutton & Horsley to help bring the brief to life.

"We very much admire the architecture of the homes dotted along Long Island's coastline and wanted something reminiscent of that," says Claire. "It was also important that the overall design lent itself to year-round entertaining as well as be easy to live in day-to-day." The result is an elegant four-bedroom home with all the hallmarks of the Hamptons: stone cladding, dormer windows, plantation shutters, a crisply tailored interior and sparkling pool.

The front door opens to a flight of stairs that are constantly in use with the children, Lachlan, 12, and Tara, nine, bounding up to their bedrooms or down to play outside, often with Louie the spoodle in tow. To the west of the stairs is the formal living room; to the east is the formal dining room and kitchen, with main bedroom suite beyond. ▶

KITCHEN / With ample storage, room to circulate and a Vintec wine fridge built into the island bench, the generous kitchen is an entertainer's dream. Joinery, Endeavour Joinery. Quantum Quartz benchtops in Indian Jet Black, MarbleCraft. The island benchtop is made from burnt American oak. Bentwood barstools, Wayfair. Rug, Temple & Webster.
Smart buy: Lode Industrial three-light pendant, $971, Southside Lighting.
STUDY NOOK / Claire catches up on household admin. Daily System chalkboard, Pottery Barn. Chair slipcovers made from Gummerson China Seas Ticking Stripe.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

This is the life

"We wanted flexibility, to be able to accommodate a crowd or host a small gathering without our guests feeling lost in space," says Claire. The solution was to designate zones for both formal and informal entertaining, including a covered alfresco barbecue/dining area next to the pool. "We also opted for classic yet relaxed furnishings," says Claire. "We didn't want the house to look so precious that you felt you had to tiptoe around."



'It exudes such a relaxed holiday feel that you're almost brushing the sand from your feet.' Claire

FORMAL DINING / Slipcovers in Fabric Convention Sunroom Two-Tone Botanical emulate those in the movie *Something's Gotta Give*. Reflected in the mirror from Civic ProFrame is a 3D artwork that was created by mounting a tea set on the wall. Chairs, French Dressing. Pendant light, Southside Lighting. Rug, The Rugs Wizard. **Designer buy:** Tuscany extendable dining table, $2195, Wisteria Design.

FORMAL LIVING / Canberra might be far from the sea but the signature cool coastal palette of Hamptons style works beautifully. Sofas and ottoman, Domayne (discontinued). Loxley armchairs, Molmic. Artwork by Jean Omenti. Nandi carpet, Lemon Carpets (throughout).

STAIRS / Painted crisp white with accents in black, the stairs are an elegant focal point. Hall table, 1825 Interiors. Lamp, Cafe Lighting. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232. ▶







THE PALETTE

Dulux Bleaches, half-strength
main interior walls

Dulux Antique White USA
stairs, trims

Dulux Grand Piano
exterior



MAIN BEDROOM /
Layers of soft textures create a restful air. Bedhead, Pottery Barn. Bedlinen, Provincial Home Living. Throw and cushions, Busatti. For similar bench, try The Country Trader. Lamp, Early Settler & Recollections.

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.





◀ At the heart of the home is a sunken family room, which flows out to a covered outdoor room and the pool.

The first floor has been designed as two wings, the children's bedrooms in one and a guestroom and TV room in the other; the latter is designed to be converted into a teen retreat when required. "We love knowing our home will grow with us," says Claire.

With the build nearing completion, Claire engaged interior designer Monique Meijer of Capital Property Styling to apply the finishing touches. Specifying materials in keeping with classic Hamptons style, Monique introduced timeless furnishings and lots of tailoring, such as slipcovers on all the dining chairs, as well as striped rugs and plenty of cushions. Fresh white and the palest grey are used throughout to contrast with the black japanned flooring.

Claire says the movie *Something's Gotta Give*, which features one of the most coveted homes ever to grace the silver screen, was a big influence on her design choices. "I think the formal dining room is particularly successful on that front," she says. "Monique's attention to detail was spot on."

What does the family love most about their new home? "It exudes such a relaxed holiday feel that you're almost brushing the sand from your feet," says Claire. "You always want to linger a little longer." **H&G**

Jefferson Godfrey Architects, Lyneham, ACT; 0411 868 086. Capital Property Styling, Kingston, ACT; 0437 337 322 or capitalpropertystyling.com.au. Sutton & Horsley, Hume, ACT; (02) 6260 2999 or www.suttonandhorsley.com.au.

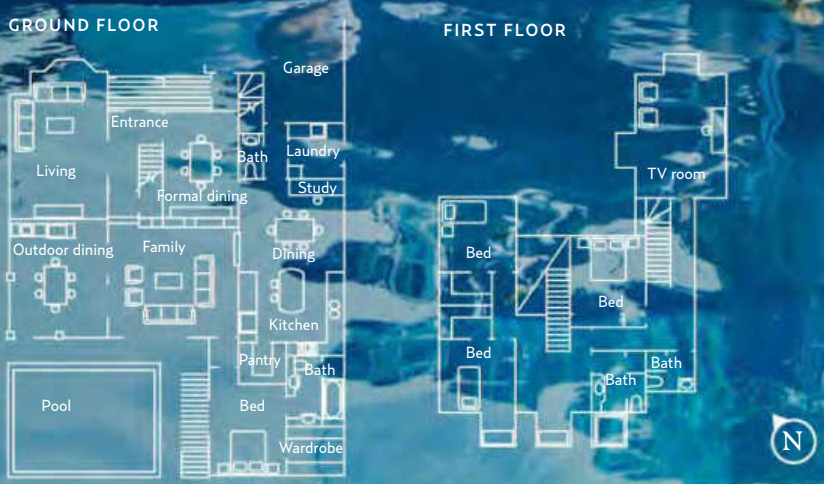
'We love knowing our home will grow with us.' Claire

TARA'S ROOM / A bench seat built into the dormer window is an idyllic spot for Tara to sit and daydream. For similar bed, try Pottery Barn Kids. Window seat cushion in JW Design Lulu Stripe. Blind custom-made by Ideal Furnishings in JW Design Dotty. Armadillo&Co rug, Designcraft.
BATHROOM / A compact bath from Decina fits snugly into the space under the window. Wall and floor tiles, Rivoland. Blind by Ideal Furnishings in Zepel Fabrics Needlepoint.
POOL / The family loves chilling out by the pool. Cushions, Great Outdoor Cushions. Outdoor rug, Temple & Webster. Coffee table, Domayne (discontinued).
Smart buy: Saybrook modular outdoor sofa, from $869/section, Pottery Barn.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

Let there be light

High on Claire's wish list was a holiday-at-home feel, so Monique specified a selection of floral fabrics to bring the outside in and evoke memories of warm spring and summer days year-round. Vases filled with loose arrangements of fresh flowers and foliage are always dotted throughout the home, filling the air with scent and providing pops of colour against the pale grey and crisp white walls.

THE LAYOUT





Blue-ribbon digs

A Sydney apartment with a fascinating provenance is the ideal base for its globetrotting owner.

PRODUCED BY **NERIDA PIGGIN** / PHOTOGRAPHY **FELIX FOREST**



PORTICO / The new sandstone entry arch is perfectly matched to the original exterior. Mirror, pots and urns, The Country Trader. Rustic branch table, JB Hawkins Antiques.
HALL / An equestrian-themed artwork reflects the owner's love of horses. The bench is one of many heirlooms throughout the apartment. Bag, Hermès. Artwork by Lawrence Starkey.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



This building in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, occupying a rise by the harbour, has been through a number of incarnations. Built as a home for a wealthy family in 1913, it was, at various times, a school and religious retreat, and was commandeered by the military during WWII. About the time of its centenary, the property was sold, enlarged and remodelled as generously scaled apartments.

One person lucky enough to buy into this haven was Maggie, who secured a ground-floor apartment with a courtyard garden. "I'd just returned from a trip to France and Italy and was inspired to find a city home with harbour views in a quiet street," she says.

This apartment is one of several added to the original footprint but is perfectly in keeping with the heritage elements of the mansion. From the street, in fact, you would think the property is still a large private home. "One of the reasons I fell in love with it was that it seemed as though I was walking into the main house, and that the apartment was all part of the history of the house," says Maggie. "The sandstone entrance is perfectly matched. If you stand on the street you can't see where the old finishes and the new begins."

Maggie had previously lived in a large house on the North Shore, but was happy to downsize to this two-bedroom apartment and cut down on gardening. Her new home offers a low-maintenance city base that she can lock up and leave to travel overseas or to her country property in the NSW Southern Highlands.

The L-shaped apartment is ideally oriented so that all of the rooms fronting the garden – bedrooms, living room, dining room – are ▶

'I love sitting down for a chatty dinner in the dining room. It's cool in summer and cosy in winter.' ***Maggie***

LIVING / Oak parquetry recreates the craftsmanship of a past era. Linen-covered armchairs are positioned to take in courtyard views. Chairs and cushions, Cameron Kimber Design. Console table, Graham Geddes Antiques. Artworks over dining table purchased at auction from Sotheby's.
DINING / An antique dining table is partnered with chairs upholstered in plush, deep-hued velvet. Custom-made sisal rug.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



This is the life

This apartment is a sophisticated urban base for Maggie. It's a distinctly urban experience, in contrast to her country retreat, and a deeply comfortable place to call home when she's not travelling throughout Europe, where she loves to absorb design references and source more antique treasures and artworks. "After a long trip I arrive back to this heavenly sanctuary, where the sun pours in," she says. "I just love it."



THE PALETTE

Dulux Putty
dining room

Dulux Sea Blue
french-door exteriors

Add a dash of

Porter's Paints Eden

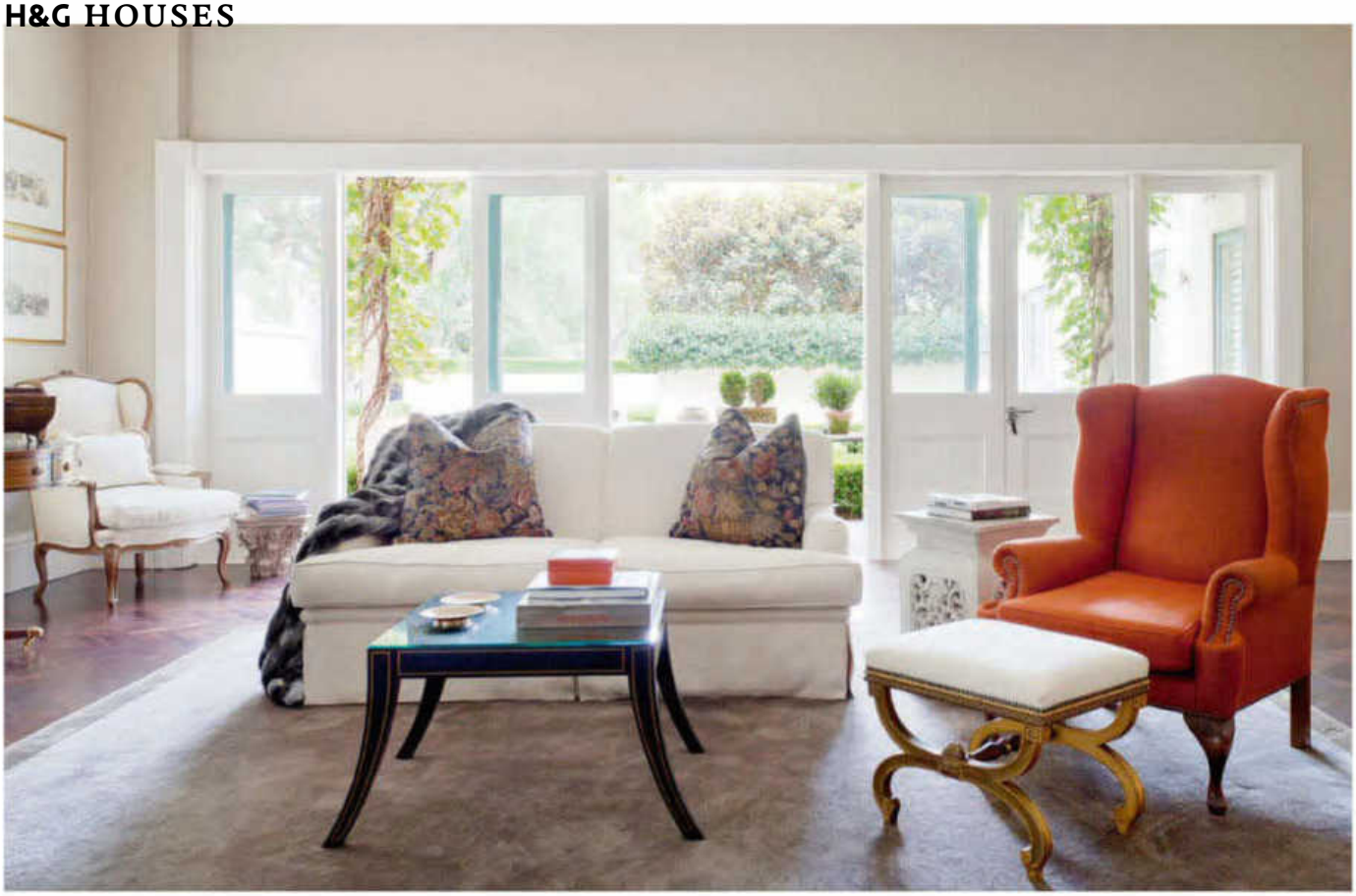


KITCHEN / This space needed only a few rustic accents to make it perfect. Chandelier, The Country Trader. For a similar tap, try The English Tapware Company.
MAIN BEDROOM / A 1920s mirrored console sits pretty in the main bedroom nook.
GUESTROOM / Florals, checks and framed vintage artworks are combined in a charming vignette. Wallpaper, Garner Agencies.
Designer buy: Marcella Floriana bedcover, made to order, from $329, Linea Casa. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.



'I am mainly inspired by what I see and buy in France and Italy, as well as by my farm.' **Maggie**



drenched in light most of the day. This meant the layout needed only relatively minor changes. Maggie knocked down a wall between the dining and living rooms to improve the flow in the space and installed a new fireplace.

To refine the aesthetic of her apartment, she called on the services of interior design Cameron Kimber. His brief was to help create an elegant urban abode that was distinctly different to Maggie's home in the country. To that end, he had existing furniture reupholstered in luxurious textiles, displayed Maggie's collection of antiques and artworks to great effect, and added some bold new pieces to the mix.

"She is very experienced at putting houses together and has a great style, so I simply acted as a fresh pair of eyes," says Cameron.

"Working with Cameron was so easy and inspirational. He understood exactly what I wanted," says Maggie. "My furniture was given new life, with an emphasis on comfort and charm."

Landscape designer Peter Fudge suggested a parterre garden layout, making the outdoors a central focus of the property and planting a low-maintenance garden defined by box hedges. The green space functions as an outdoor extension of the apartment's social zones.

"I spend a lot of my time entertaining, and this city home is perfect for that," says the contented owner. "When I am here I feel I could be in Italy or France as well as Sydney." **H&G**

Cameron Kimber Design, Woollahra, NSW; (02) 9388 0144 or www.cameronkimber.com. Peter Fudge Gardens, Woollahra, NSW; (02) 9211 1336 or www.peterfudgegardens.com.au.

'I spend a lot of time entertaining. This apartment is perfect for that.' Maggie

LIVING / Suffused with sunlight, this space is rich in character and comfort. Sofa and coffee table, Cameron Kimber Design. Tapestry cushions, The Country Trader. Rug, Robyn Cosgrove Rugs.
Smart buy: For similar faux-fur throw, try the 110x140cm blanket, $130, Minimink.
COURTYARD / The pretty, wisteria-covered terrace serves as a transitional space between inside and outside zones. Fountain, Peter Fudge Gardens. Table, The Country Trader.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



FEATURE PLANTS

COURTYARD
Japanese box (*Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica*)
Wisteria
Morning glory (*Convolvulus mauritanicus*)

Let there be light

From the re-covered furniture to the landscaping, every aspect of this apartment capitalises on the easy, breezy connections between its interiors, courtyard garden and harbourside setting. "Sea breezes from the harbour waft into my bedroom when I leave all the french doors wide open," says Maggie. New white linen upholstery glows in the sun-filled living area while black velvet creates a dramatic contrast in the intimate dining room.



An artful APPROACH

In the hands of a talented Perth artist, a dilapidated two-storey property has been crafted into an elegant, relaxed family home.

STORY & STYLING **ANNA FLANDERS** / PHOTOGRAPHY **ANGELITA BONETTI**



FEATURE PLANTS

ENTRANCE
Ornamental pear
***Rosa* 'Pierre de Ronsard'**
Salvia officinalis
Vinca
POOL AREA
Water gum (*Tristaniopsis laurina* 'Luscious')

ENTRANCE / Owner Rebecca Warburton with her daughter Emma and the family's schnoodle, Raffy, walk through the arbour, which is covered in 'Pierre de Ronsard' roses. The drystone wall is made of limestone. Landscaping by HortPlan.
FOYER / Antique furniture is used throughout the house. "I love antiques," says Rebecca. "They add real warmth to an interior." Antique hall table bought at auction. Antique artwork. Bowl, Georg Jensen. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



Artist and interior designer Rebecca Warburton snapped up this graceful two-storey home in riverside Perth before the For Sale sign was even erected. Living two doors down at the time, she had often admired the house and dreamt of one day calling it her own. Her hopes were realised in 2006 when she spied a real estate agent she knew out the front.

"Our previous home was great for a small family," says Rebecca, who lives here with her husband Neil and their 15-year-old twins, Emma and Tom. "But when Neil's older children began staying with us more often, we wanted a more flexible space."

Built in 1927, the house was very rundown when Rebecca and Neil bought it. But they could see that it had good bones and was well positioned on its 900m² corner block. "We had to have it restumped, rewired and replumbed. Some of the ceilings were sunken, balustrades and decking needed replacing and rain had been running down internal walls," says Rebecca. "I think a lot of people would have bulldozed."

The original floor plan was simple: kitchen, living and dining rooms downstairs; three bedrooms and the home's sole bathroom upstairs. Rebecca's plan was to repurpose the existing spaces and extend at the rear to accommodate an open-plan kitchen/dining area, scullery, living room and bathroom downstairs. On the first floor they would gain two extra bedrooms, both with walk-in wardrobes and ensuite bathrooms.

Today, the original kitchen has been transformed into a guest/music room. Rebecca has a study in what was once the home's formal dining room and the old living room is now Neil's office. ▶

KITCHEN / Rebecca was heavily involved in the creative process, designing the kitchen cabinets and pendant lights herself. Calacatta Tradizionale benchtops. Stools, Empire Highgate. *Beach Bliss* painting by Rebecca Warburton.
OUTDOOR DINING / The north-facing alfresco dining area is enjoyed year-round. Dark Birdcage pendant light, Lightingales. Antique table. Tablecloth, Linen & Moore. **Smart buy:** Northern cane dining chairs, $265/each, Shanghai Shed. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

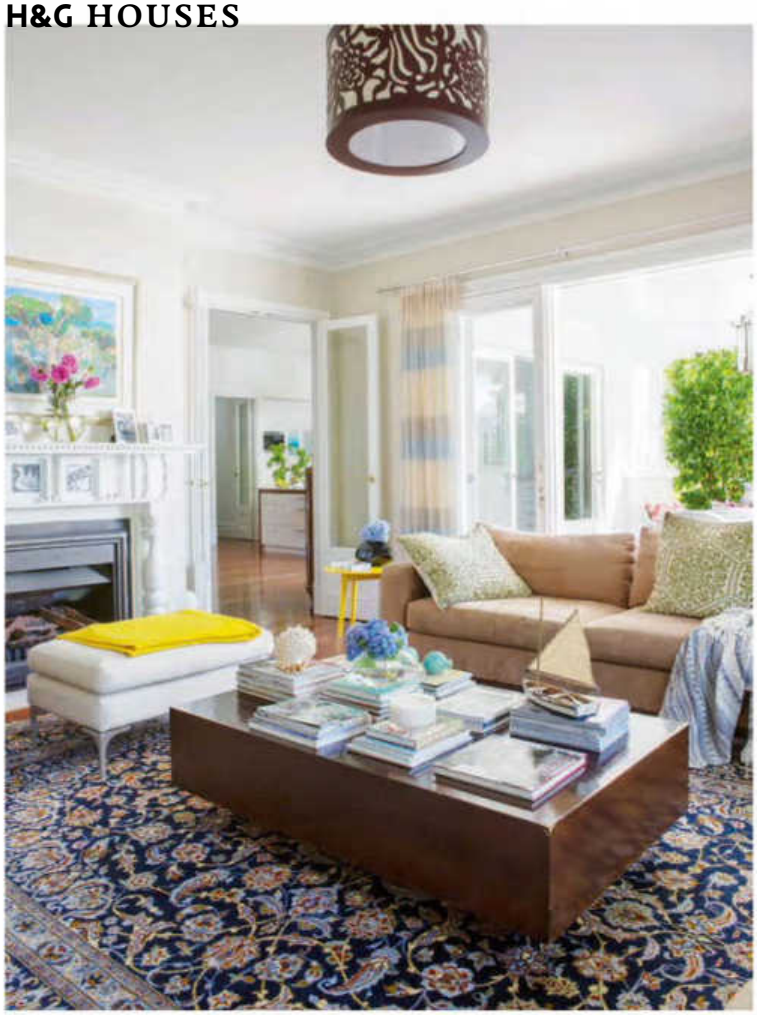
This is the life

"I've been a collector – my husband would say hoarder! – of furniture for a long time," says Rebecca. "I always buy pieces I love so I hate throwing them out. I don't think my furniture goes out of style but I do get sick of some pieces so they go into storage. Then I bring them out years later and they have a new life. That's why antiques are so great. They have survived a fair time, they will survive longer."

'It's so private that we feel as though we have no neighbours.'

Rebecca Warburton





'I love antiques, they add real warmth to an interior. I have something from almost every era.'
Rebecca

LIVING / Doors to the adjacent outdoor dining/pool area are often left wide open to invite cooling breezes inside. Sofa, cushions and ottoman, all Rebecca Wood Interiors. The coffee table is a repurposed vintage plan press. The family has owned the Persian rug for many years. Side table, Adairs. Pendant light, Lightingales (discontinued). *The Tree of Life* artwork by Murray Gill.

EMMA'S BEDROOM / The mix of antiques and colourful contemporary pieces is sophisticated yet fun for a teenager. Antique French bed. Side table, Adairs. Floor lamp and shade, Ikea. Ottoman in Unique Fabrics Saturday Multi, Rebecca Wood Interiors. Painting by Rebecca Warburton, art print bought in China. Rug, The Rug Establishment.

Smart buy: Thibaut Allison wallpaper in Light Blue, $172/8.2m roll, Boyac.

HALL / A gallery of photos celebrating many great family times adorns the hall outside the main bedroom. Antique chest. Artwork by Hagan. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

THE LAYOUT





Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.



THE PALETTE

Dulux White Duck
foyer

Dulux Designer White
trims

Taubmans Dusty Dawn
exterior





◀ Upstairs, the three existing rooms are now Emma and Tom's bedrooms and a study, with the extension given over to a luxurious new main bedroom suite and an additional bedroom (now used as a teen retreat). "Everyone can be in their own space or head to the kitchen/dining area to hang out together," says Rebecca.

Rebecca took a hands-on approach at every stage of the 18-month project. She worked closely with architect Michael Richardson of Ross McAndrew Architect to ensure the look and feel of the home was just right, then contracted builders Humphrey Homes to bring her home up to scratch.

Following the build phase, Rebecca went to work on the interiors, selecting a neutral palette to neatly tie together her colourful beach-themed paintings and an artfully curated collection of antique and new furnishings. "I buy pieces because I love them, not because they conform to a particular look," she says.

Rebecca was keen to ensure the outside looked as good as the inside so she engaged landscapers HortPlan, which developed a formal yet low-maintenance garden using existing mature trees on the block and in the neighbours' yards as a backdrop.

"I wanted a home that felt relaxed and private – a bit like a Victorian beach house," says Rebecca. With its scale, elegantly colourful interiors and sprawling outdoor areas, that vision has been brought to life. **H&G**

Ross McAndrew Architect, North Fremantle, WA; www.rossmcandrew architect.com.au. Rebecca Wood Interiors, Claremont, WA; 0408 118 110. Humphrey Homes, Cottesloe, WA; (08) 9284 5444 or www.humphrey homes.com.au. HortPlan, Guildford, WA; www.hortplan.com.au.

MAIN BEDROOM / above left and right Raffy makes himself comfortable. Bedhead and cushions, Rebecca Wood Interiors. Bedside table, Corner Store. Lamp, Bloomingdales Lighting & Decorator Accessories. Basket, Shanghai Shed. Curtains in Unique Fabrics Piazza Rice (sheer) and Lacquer Linen, Anne Bailey Agencies. *Just Us* painting by Rebecca Warburton. Carpet, Carpet Force. **Designer buy:** Rostino armchair, $1359, Corner Store.

VERANDAH / The outdoor setting was inherited. Cushions, Rebecca Wood Interiors. Landscaping by HortPlan.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



Let there be light

"The garden was a just a patch of dirt when we finished building but the landscapers, HortPlan, did such a great job that it looked established after just 12 months," says Rebecca. "It's so easy to maintain and so private that we feel as though we have no neighbours. We are able to use the outdoor dining area year-round and whenever it's warm enough, we linger on the upstairs verandahs enjoying the views."



Photography by Eve Wilson (this page) & Andrew Maynard Architects (opposite).



LIVING / A bold spiral staircase by Enzie Stairs leads to the main bedroom suite. Double glazing, Viridian. Egg stool/side table, Mark Tuckey.
ENTRANCE / Homeowner Natalie Herd, with her children Adele and Oliver, couldn't be more delighted with her newly renovated home. The garden was designed by the previous owner, landscape designer Phil Stray.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

Home base

Weaving its disparate parts into a whole gave this Melbourne family a magnificently unique abode.

STORY **STEPHEN CRAFTI** / STYLING **JUDY OSTERGAARD**



This Victorian pile, home to Natalie and Simon Herd, is thought to be one of the oldest homes in the arty Melbourne suburb of Northcote. Built circa 1873, the home's Gothic Revival facade is complemented by an impressive garden designed by landscape designer Phil Stray of Crafted Landscapes. Indeed, Phil once called the property home.

While the garden was fabulous, the home's layout wasn't ideal for the Herds and their children, Oliver, six, and Adele, four, when they bought it in 2010. A rear extension, designed to accommodate Phil's truck and tools at ground level with a work studio above, was particularly problematic. "It had no real connection to the house," says Simon, who feared it would end up as little more than a junk depository.

The couple engaged Andrew Maynard Architects to come up with a plan to tie house and extension together. The challenge was to respect the Victorian heritage as well as the more recent architectural layers, including the timber-battened screens surrounding the studio and bluestone pillars that reference the garden. "There was beauty in what was already there," says design architect, Andrew Maynard. Revamping the existing kitchen was also high on Natalie and Simon's wish list.

Today, the garage is a comfortable living room while the studio, accessed via a striking spiral staircase, is a tranquil main bedroom suite complete with ensuite, walk-through wardrobe and private balcony.

Previously, the living area was shoehorned in beside the kitchen. "We were always on top of one another and there was no real indoor play space for the children," says Natalie. "Now there's plenty of room to ▶



Photography by Andrew Maynard Architects (this page) & Eve Wilson (opposite).

This is the life

This renovation has given the family more room than they expected, for individual pursuits as well as together time. "I like the way the living room is separate from the kitchen/dining area," says Natalie. "It allows us to be in our own space and gives the children somewhere to play. That said, I think having the study area in the living room is great for us and the kids. It's nice to be able to do admin without being hidden away."



DINING / A dedicated dining zone was created in what was the living room. Pendant light, Angelucci 20th Century. Recycled Hoarding dining table, Mark Tuckey. Replica Emeco Navy chairs, Matt Blatt. Armadillo&Co rug, Southwood. Kevatjuhla fabric wall hanging, Marimekko.
KITCHEN / opposite top and bottom The open ingredients storage is one of Natalie's favourite features. "It's great not having to dig around at the back of cupboards when I'm cooking," she says. A canteen-style window opens onto the link zone. Benchtops in Caesarstone Urban. Hoop-pine joinery, Cantilever (throughout). Organic Modernism stools bought in New York. Rangehoods, Qasair.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



'[Before,] we were always on top of one another ... Now, there's plenty of room to spread out.' *Natalie Herd*

BATHROOM / The family feels connected to the garden even while bathing. Tapware and bath, Reece.
MAIN BEDROOM / External timber battens filter the light, while double-glazed doors open inwards to allow fresh air to flow through. Bedlinen, Spacecraft. Shelf unit (behind bed), Mark Tuckey. Print by Margie Sheppard.
LIVING / "For the first time in our lives, I feel like we have enough shelves and storage," says Natalie. Pendant light, About Space. Tretford Cord goat-hair carpet, Gibbon Group. Painting by Jeannie Petyarre Pitjara.
Smart buy: Foliage Stripe Crashmat beanbag, $139, Crashmat. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

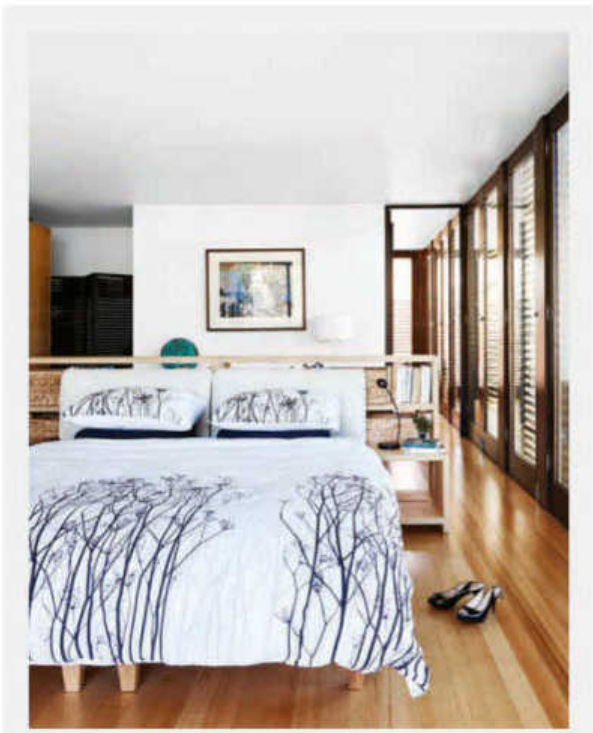
spread out." The south and west living room walls are double-glazed, giving the room an indoor-outdoor feel; built-in joinery runs the length of the remaining walls. To ramp up the cosiness in the 5x9m space, they selected sumptuous feather-wrapped sofas and goat-hair carpet.

New hoop-pine joinery and stone-composite benchtops give the refreshed kitchen a contemporary edge, but there's also something of the quaint, with open steel shelves holding jars of oft-used ingredients like an old-school lolly shop. New windows were installed, including a picture window over the sink, for cross-ventilation and to improve the room's connection to the garden. "Having a beautiful view from the sink almost makes doing the dishes pleasant," says Natalie, laughing.

Bridging the kitchen and new living room is a glass and steel structure with a faux-turf floor and an aluminium ceiling that reflects the garden. "You're not really sure whether you're inside or outside, but you always feel protected," says Andrew of this unique interstitial space.

Rather than screaming for attention, the latest work at this property shows a respect for the past while meeting the needs of a growing family. "We love feeling like we're part of the garden, whether we're inside or sitting in the courtyard," says Natalie.

Andrew Maynard Architects, Melbourne, Victoria; (03) 9481 5110 or www.maynardarchitects.com. Crafted Landscapes, Alphington, Victoria; 0414 343 917 or www.craftedlandscapes.com.au.



Photography by Eve Wilson. Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.



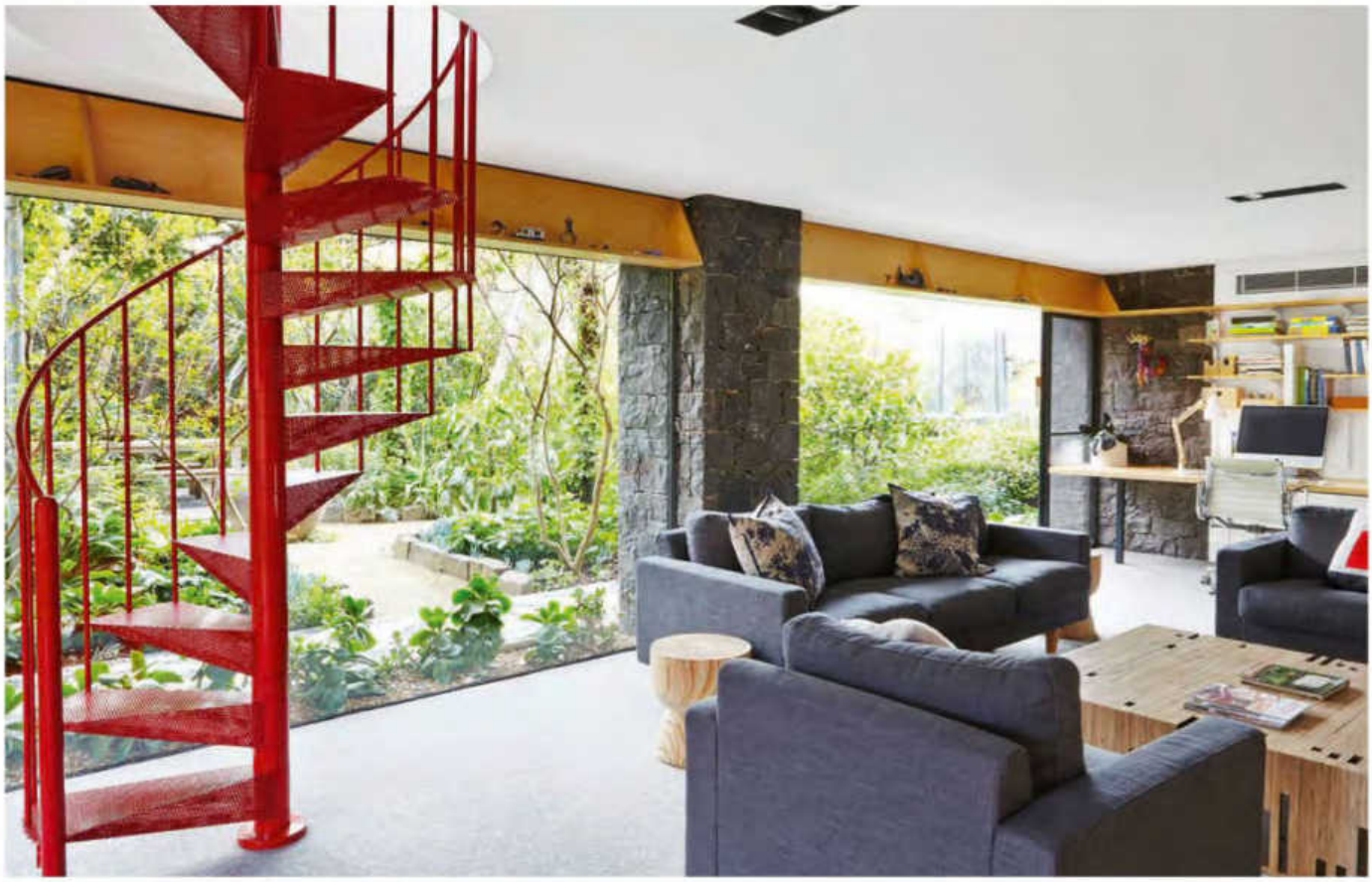
THE PALETTE

Dulux Vivid White
interior walls, throughout

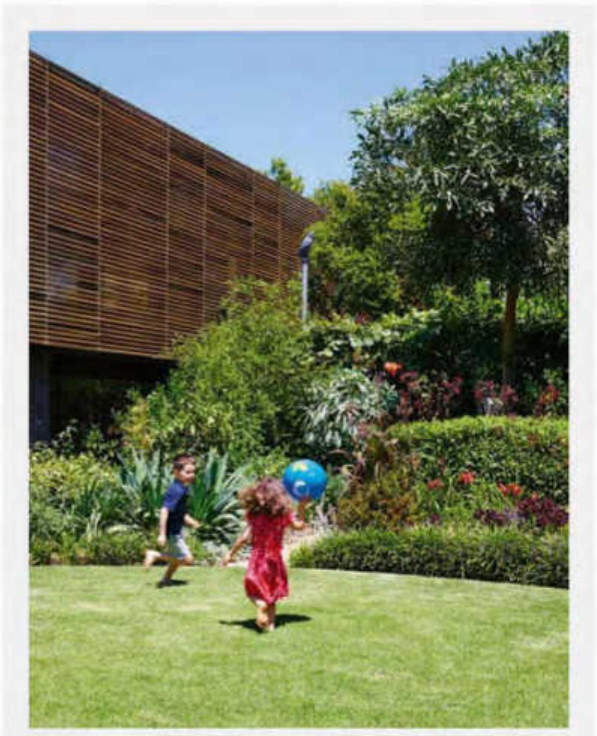
Dulux Red Clown
spiral staircase

Add a dash of

Dulux Black



To see more of this amazing renovation, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.



Photography by Eve Wilson (this page bottom) & Andrew Maynard Architects.

LIVING / "The garden feels like an extension of the living area," says Natalie. "We love it as much as the house." Ricci sofa and armchairs, Pash Furniture. Egg Cup stool/side table, Mark Tuckey. Tretford Cord carpet, Gibbon Group. **Designer buy:** Zero Waste coffee table, $6200, Andrew Maynard Architects.
BACKYARD / right and opposite With so much garden, the children have plenty of space to play. A laundry is tucked in behind the living room's rear wall.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232. **H&G**

Let there be light

This beautiful home and garden have always been inextricably linked. To ensure the Herds would always feel connected to the garden, Andrew specified glass walls for the new living room and linking passage, as well as larger windows for the kitchen to enhance views to the adjacent alfresco dining courtyard. The resulting spaces have a wonderful inside–outside feel – and invite plenty of oohs and aahs from visitors.

FEATURE PLANTS

FRONT YARD
Cordyline
Sweet box (*Sarcococca confusa*)
Aeonium arboreum
BACK YARD
Kangaroo paw
Canna
Cabbage tree (*Cussonia*)

THE LAYOUT





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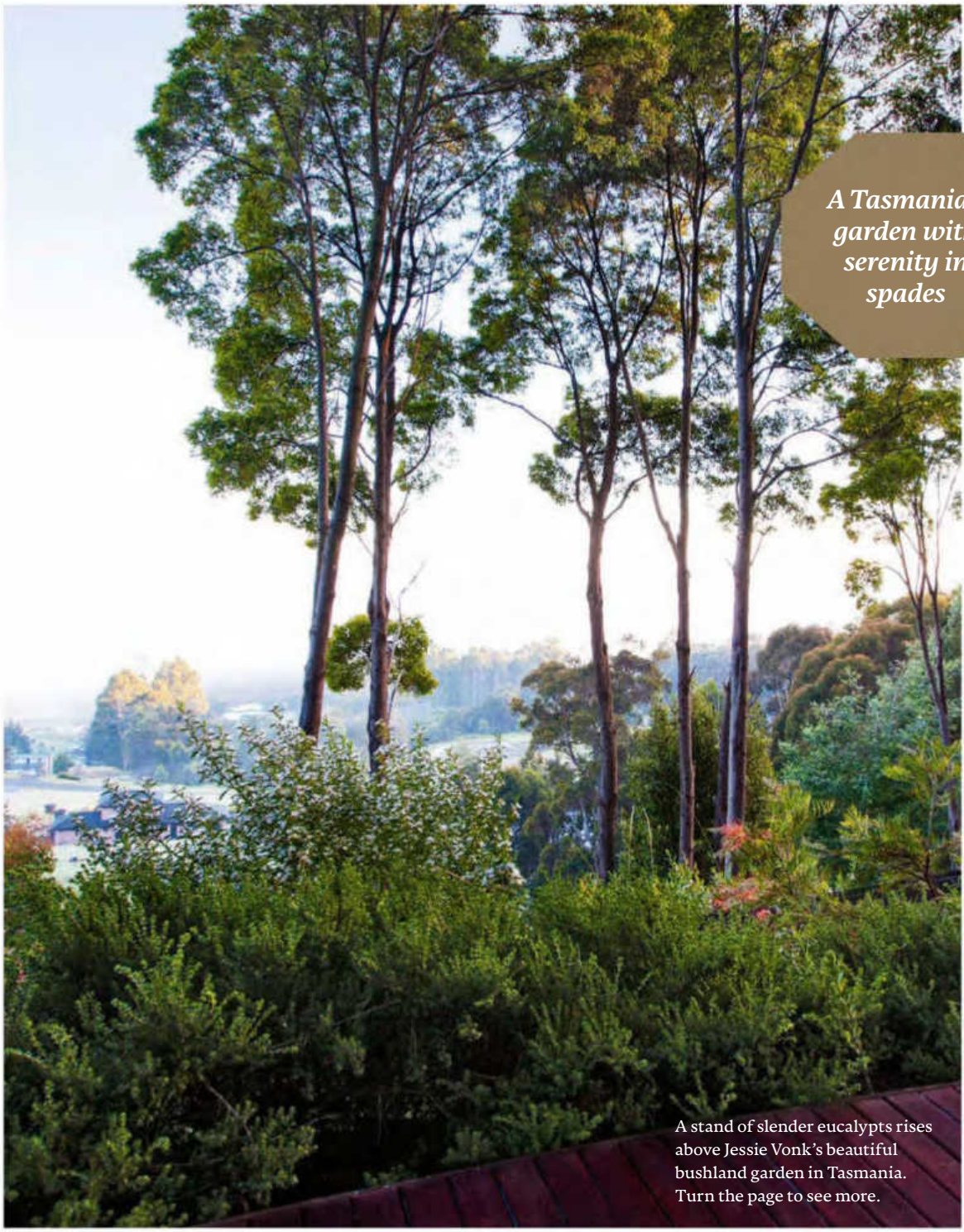
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A Tasmanian garden with serenity in spades

A stand of slender eucalypts rises above Jessie Vonk's beautiful bushland garden in Tasmania. Turn the page to see more.

Photograph by Claire Takacs.

GARDENS

A TASMANIAN DELIGHT / HOW TO...



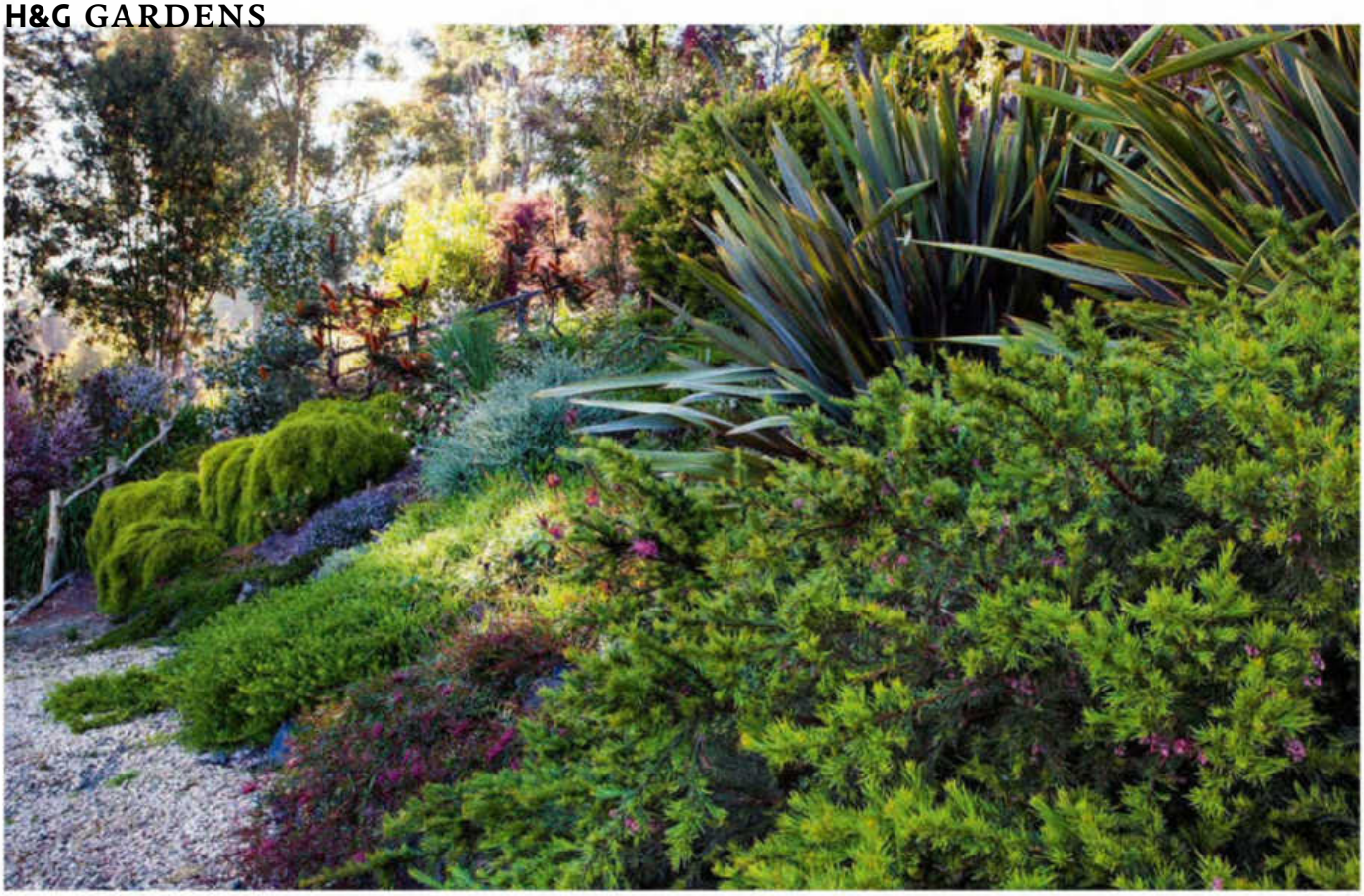
A lookout along the Tchaikovsky Height is one of Jessie's favourite places for quiet contemplation. "I like to come up here with my dog Billy and enjoy the scenery," she says. The vibrant purple flowers of mint bush (*Prostanthera*) provide a dramatic contrast to the subtle grey-green of eremophila.



A SOARING COMPOSITION

A love of native flora and a passion for classical music are intertwined in perfect harmony in this ever-evolving garden in north-western Tasmania.

STORY **CHRISTINE REID** / PHOTOGRAPHY **CLAIRE TAKACS**



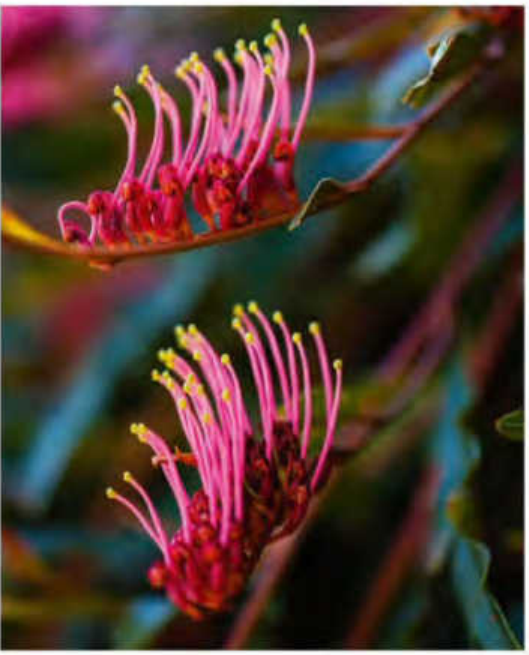
Old and new worlds come together in a surprising symphony in Jessie Vonk's garden near Devonport in Tasmania. The garden itself is quite new, only seven years old, yet it is imbued with an old-world sensibility thanks to the abundant native plants, many species of which have been growing in the pristine Tasmanian wilderness for millions of years. There are nods to old-world Europe here, too: Jessie has named areas of the garden after classical composers – Beethoven Drive is lined with banksias and kangaroo paw; the Stravinsky Loop features swathes of tree ferns (*Dicksonia antarctica*); nearby is the meandering Mahler Walk.

"I have worn a lot of different hats in my life," says Jessie. "My family emigrated to Australia from Holland when I was 14. We had strong connections here – my grandmother was Australian." Jessie returned to Europe three years later to study ballet before becoming a full-time dancer with the Dutch National Ballet, where she met her husband, noted conductor Hans Vonk. Sadly, Hans passed away from motor neurone disease in 2004.

After Hans' death, Jessie visited her mother – also named Jessie – and sister, Ingrid, in Tasmania. "They had purchased this 1.2ha parcel of land so I camped here in the bush," she says. "It was wonderfully peaceful and restorative." The experience inspired Jessie to move back to Australia and set up home on this undulating bush site.

Jessie says the ideas for her garden-making come largely from bushwalks in remote areas of Tasmania. "I walked the Overland Track from Cradle Mountain to Lake St Clair a couple of years ago and it inspired me to create the boardwalk that winds around the hillside," she says. This boardwalk is named the Mozart Promenade while nearby – a lovely example of Jessie's wit – is the Salieri Path, named after Mozart's nemesis, the Italian composer Salieri. "I made sure the Salieri path is much shorter and ▶

'[Native] plants are just so beautiful – all the different colours of the flowers and foliage.'
Jessie Vonk







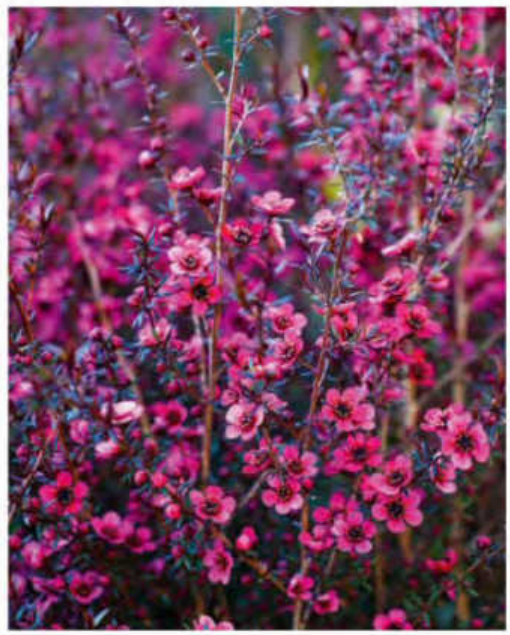


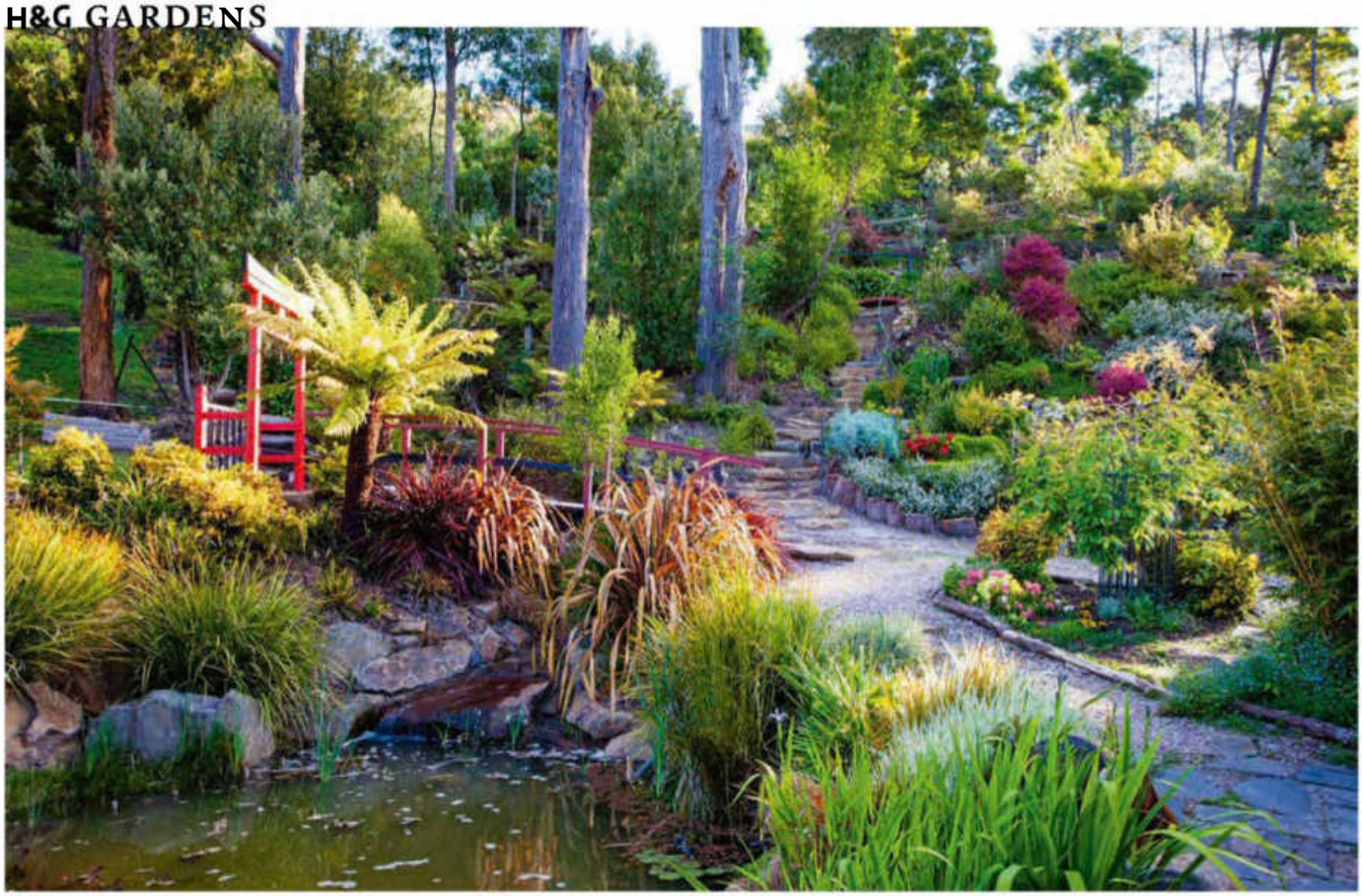
CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE / Nectar-rich grevilleas are a magnet for birds. Kangaroo paw. Jessie's interpretation of a *torii* gate, along the Bach Bend. Adonis the alpaca and his pal Billy the silky terrier-cross. Crimson tea-tree. *Banksia* 'Giant Candles'. Jessie Vonk.
OPPOSITE / A variety of ground-hugging natives, punctuated by New Zealand flax, create a patchwork of colour across the hillside near the Chopin Path.

Native garden









smaller than Mozart's!" she says. Jessie is passionate about the flora of the Australian bush. "The plants are just so beautiful – all the different colours of the flowers and foliage. I can't understand why people would want to plant an English garden here."

It is surprising, then, to learn that she claims to have no idea of plant names. "I'm not really a gardener; I'm more like a beaver," says Jessie. "I move rocks, stones and pieces of wood to create dams and trap silt and seeds. Then, as seeds germinate and plants spring up, I move them to another spot where they will fill a corner. Every plant gets a chance. Then when they mature, I like to prune them a little bit; my feeling is that every tree has to have its own space."

Since retiring as a professional dancer some 40 years ago, Jessie has channelled her creative energy into other forms, such as creating abstract and figurative sculptures in metal, timber and wire. Several of her creations are on display in the garden. "A few years ago I exhibited my work but now I work only for my private enjoyment." Her latest sculptural project, now reaching completion, is a huge spiderweb made from wire that will hang between two eucalypts. She is also making a spider out of painted timber that will cling to the web, "I have already made one as a template," she says. It will, no doubt, look eye-catching in this distinctive landscape.

At the centre of the property are three buildings; the two smaller ones are the cottage where Jessie lives and her sculpture studio. The main building is the Hans Vonk Music House where Jessie hosts regular concerts, chamber music recitals and poetry readings. "My husband and I always used to have musicians visiting our home in Amsterdam, so when I moved here I wanted to keep that spirit alive," says Jessie. "Music and nature are everything to me." **H&G**

'Music and nature are everything to me.' Jessie

ABOVE / A Japanese-inspired footbridge and *torii* gate, which Jessie made herself, lead to the Bach Bend.
OPPOSITE / One of Jessie's sculptures, *Movement*, is a point of interest on the Mozart Promenade.



HOW TO

MAKE AN ENTRANCE

This refined Sydney garden extends a formal invitation to explore its many rich dimensions.



Green leaves
In a symphony of textures, small- and large-leafed foliage in predominantly grey-green tones is contrasted with splashes of burgundy, such as the *Ajuga* 'Jungle Beauty' groundcover.

Collection point
This outdoor 'foyer' leads visitors to the front door, with a side sightline to a grand white-barked melaleuca. The paving is whitewashed sandstone from Sydney Stone Company.

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Photography by Jason Busch. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



Standing tall
Snow pears (*Pyrus nivalis*) stand proud in double rows. The trees have been pleached (had their trunks cleared) to a height of 2m and their canopies are kept trimmed. "They're like big bonsai," says Peter.

Hang loose
Rows of loosely clipped weeping birch trees pop out of the slabs of box. "They have a lovely ghostly appearance and ensure the garden doesn't look too regimented," says Peter.

Surface appeal
Crushed granite gravel, sourced from Australian Native Landscapes, lines the area below the snow pears. "I've used it in a formal way here, but it's also used in native gardens," says Peter.

Cutting hedge
Peter has created 'slabs' of Japanese box (*Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica*), 200mm high. "I like the way the slabs create low, textured platforms that contrast with the tall trees."



PETER FUDGE

Principal, Peter Fudge Design

The brief
The owners of this 1500m² property gave Peter free rein to landscape the front, side and rear gardens, but with a general direction. "They wanted a restrained, pared-back, formal-style garden," says Peter.

The solution
Peter devised the layout as a journey, taking his cue from the property's 1930s home. "The interiors are classic but modern and minimal, so I flowed this aesthetic out to the garden."

Formal and flexible
"This garden is structured but not entirely formal in style," says Peter. "Combining formal elements and woodland planting gives it an interesting interplay of textures and forms."

Designer statement
"I like the way the garden entices you deeper in as you walk around it."

Peter Fudge Gardens, Woollahra, NSW; www.peterfudgegardens.com.au.



WELCOME SIGHT

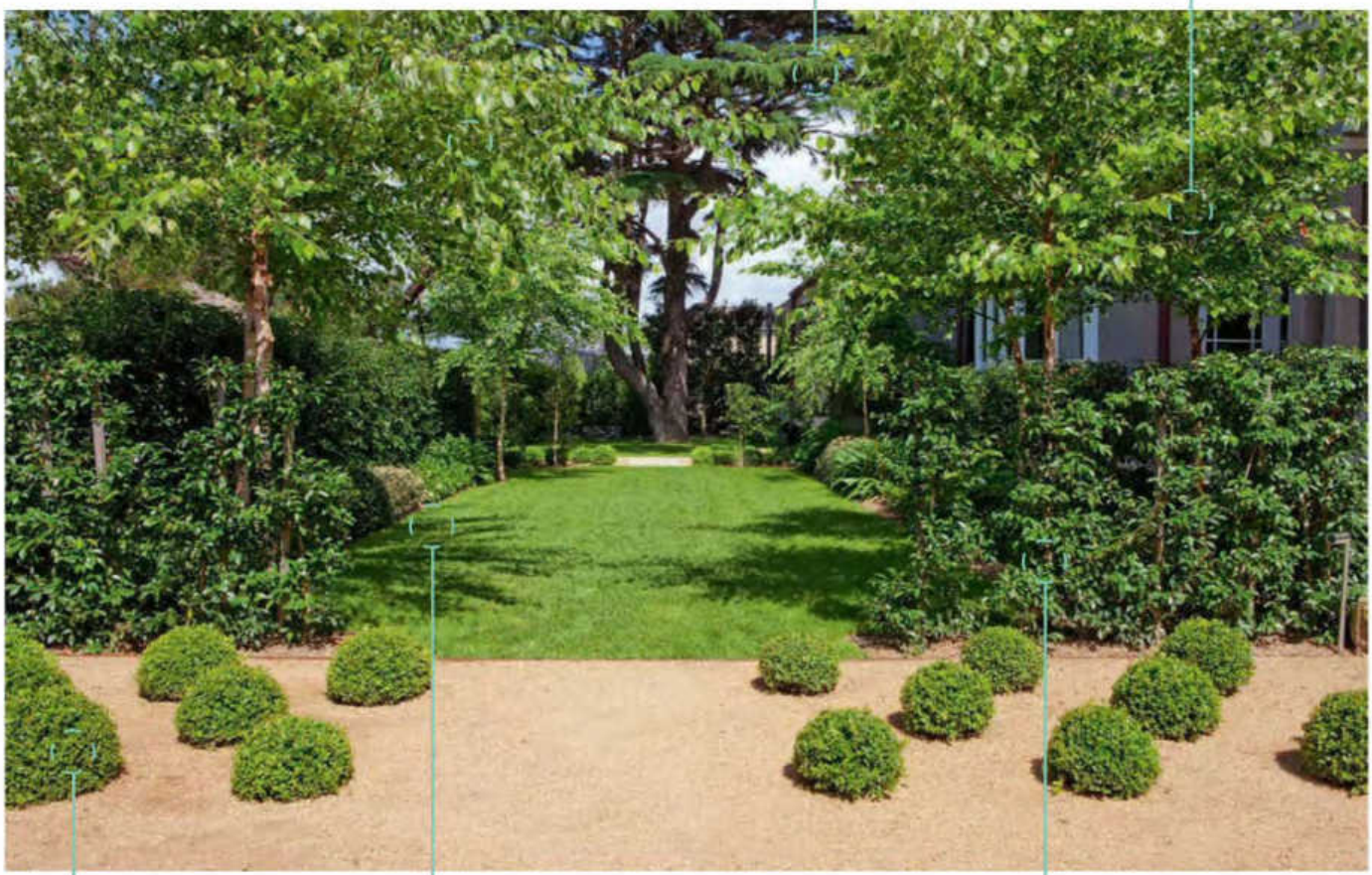
A large urn, strategically placed, is the first thing visitors see as they walk through the front gate. Planted in the urn is a Mexican lily (*Beschorneria yuccoides*), one of Peter's favourite plants. "I like it because it's hardy and tough and I love the form. It breaks up the neatness of the *Buxus* and softens the urn," he says. Mini mondo grass is planted around the base.

Old soul

The side garden was planted with a woodland theme in mind. At the far end, a magnificent old cedar has been seamlessly incorporated into the theme, presiding over the new layout.

Dappled effect

Birch trees are positioned so they pop up above the camellia hedge. Their loose, pendulous branches create the impression of natural woodland and balance the stricter lines of box hedges.



Spheres of influence

Arranged in diagonal lines, these 50cm-high spheres of Japanese box are both welcoming and whimsical. "They create an orderly but casual note, and entice you into the gardem," says Peter.

In the mix

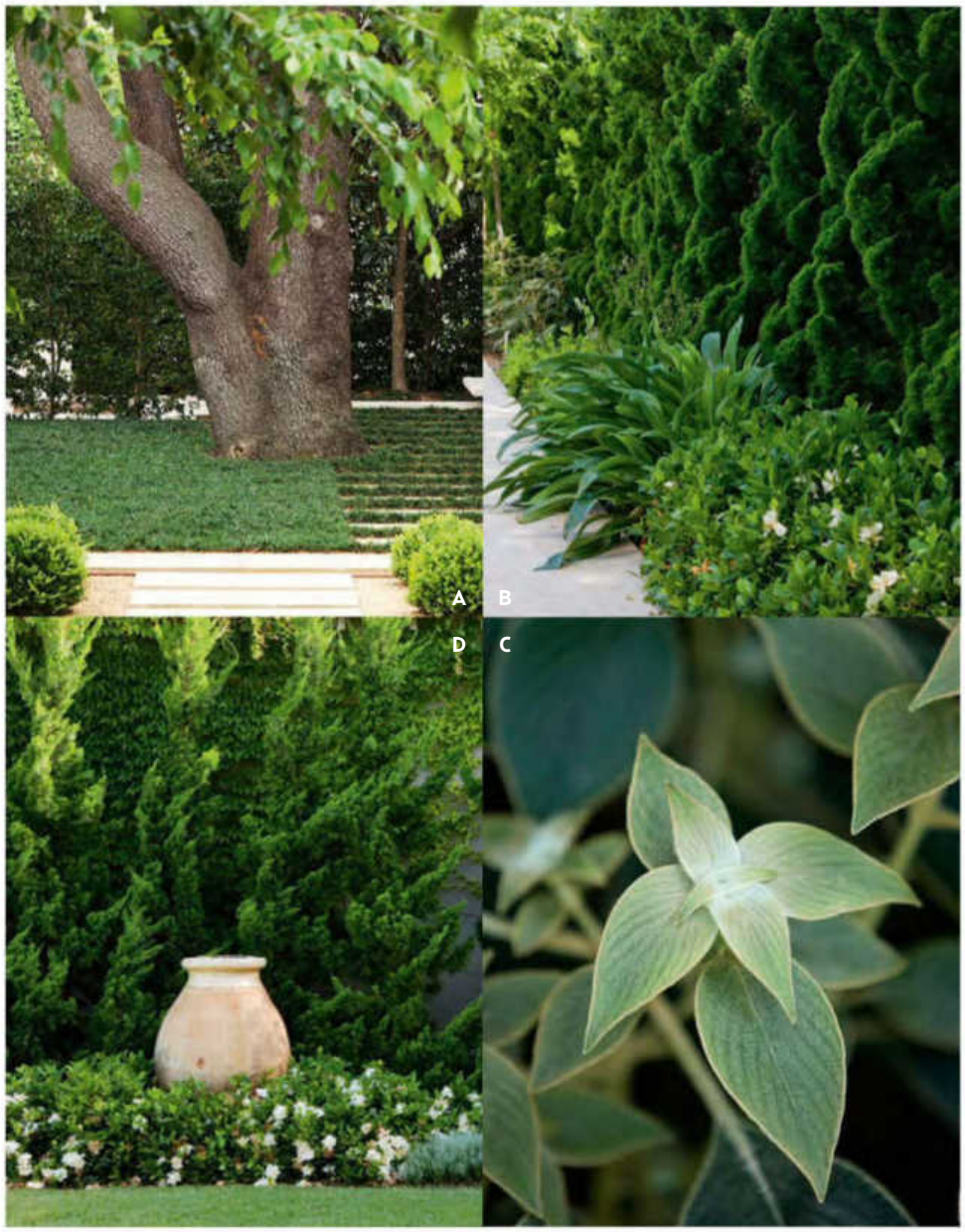
The border plantings are a mix of *Gardenia* 'Florida', *Hydrangea quercifolia* and *Azalea* 'Alba Magnifica' with varieties of *Strobilanthes* and *Arthropodium,* all framed by hedges of *Camellia sasanqua* 'Barbara'.

Loose-leaf format

The scheme here is more relaxed and less regimented than the formal front garden. "I've placed formal and woodland gardens side-by-side to create interest along the journey," says Peter.

Peter's tips for achieving a simple formal garden

- ✚ Choose hardy, climate-appropriate plants. This will give your garden the best chance at surviving long term.
- ✚ Select foliage that can be layered.
- ✚ Play with scale: the low slabs of *Buxus* I've used heighten the vertical accents of the snow pears.
- ✚ Don't just focus on flowering plants. Instead, consider plants that have year-round appeal. My top six picks are: ***Ajuga* 'Jungle Giant',** a purple-leafed groundcover. **Mexican lily** (*Beschorneria yuccoides*), a strong and drought-tolerant, strappy, mid-level plant. ***Plectranthus,*** a silver-leafed groundcover. ***Strobilanthes gossypinus,*** a large-leafed foliage plant. **Snow pears** (*Pyrus nivalis*), they are my favourite specimen trees. **Oakleaf hydrangea** (*Hydrangea quercifolia*).





1 / Tennis court
2 / Lawn
3 / Pool
4 / Snow pears (*Pyrus nivalis*)
5 / *Camellia sasanqua* 'Barbara' hedge
6 / Woodland-themed garden
7 / House

A / Dwarf mondo grass surrounds the cedar. "It's the perfect lawn because of its form and colour," says Peter.
B / A hedge of Chinese juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* 'Keteleeri') grows by the pool. "It has beautiful colour and velvety texture, and grows in spiral twists," says Peter. In front is a mixed border of *Gardenia* 'Florida' and *Arthropodium cirratum.*
C / Grey-green Persian shield (*Strobilanthes gossypinus*).
D / A terracotta urn set amid a sea of gardenias in bloom. **H&G**

Illustration by Allison Langton.

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Tasty spring dishes from a seafood master



Ceviche
For recipe, see next page.

Dinner plate and tumbler, Freedom. Napkin, stylist's own. Iittala votive (used as salt dish), Design Mode International. Foliage from Portobello Rose (throughout).
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

Styling by Michaela Le Compte. Photograph by John Paul Urizar.

LIVING

ENTERTAINING / DRINKS / AT MY TABLE

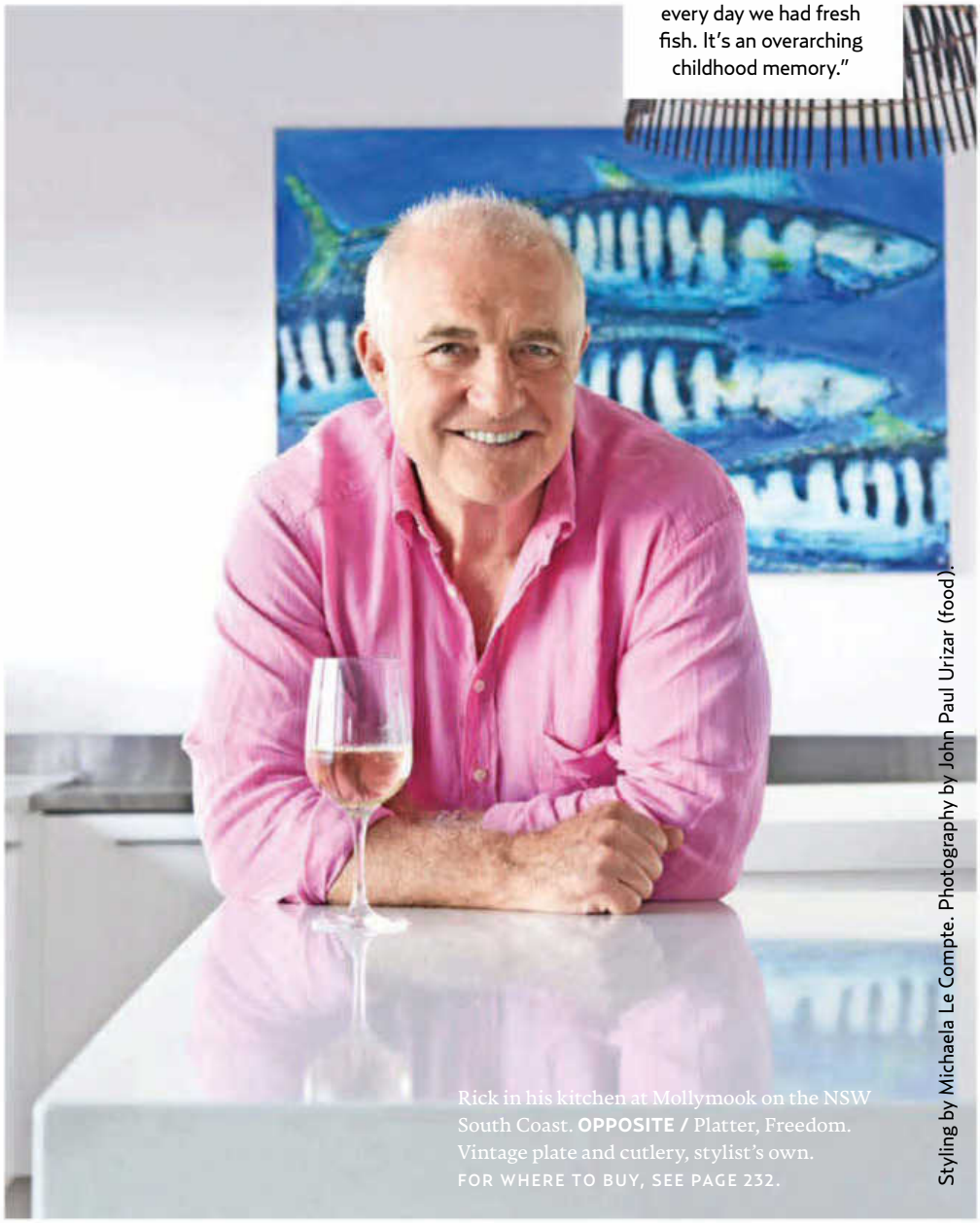
ENTERTAINING

KING OF THE SEAS

Succulent, fresh fish is one of the greatest joys in life. Here, seafood maestro **Rick Stein** shares a selection of dishes so you can celebrate the arrival of spring and tastes from the sea.

"Ever since I was a child spending long summer holidays at our house overlooking the ocean, I've eaten the best possible seafood. My father had a share in a lobster boat and every day we had fresh fish. It's an overarching childhood memory."

Chef and multi-award winning restaurateur Rick Stein's seafood dishes are bound by one simple truth: "There's nothing more exhilarating than fresh fish, simply cooked". So much so, he says that 90 per cent of the success of all seafood dishes lies in choosing the freshest fish and shellfish. The owner of Rick Stein at Bannisters, in Mollymook on the NSW South Coast, is in prime position to do just this. Asked what is special about South-Coast seafood, he's effusive. "Wonderful yellowfin tuna, great oysters, juicy Lake Illawarra school prawns, which we serve deep-fried in the shell with aioli, beautiful pink snapper caught off the rocks below our house in the winter..." the list goes on. Here, he shares some of his firm favourites so you can experience the best, at home. ▶ ***www.bannisters.com.au.***



Rick in his kitchen at Mollymook on the NSW South Coast. **OPPOSITE /** Platter, Freedom. Vintage plate and cutlery, stylist's own. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

Styling by Michaela Le Compte. Photography by John Paul Urizar (food).

Ceviche

Prep: 5 mins + 10 mins standing. Serves 6.

Thinly slice **500g white fish, such as flathead or John Dory,** and place in a shallow dish. Pour **juice of 3 limes and 1 orange** over. Cover and refrigerate 10mins; fish will turn white and opaque. Lift fish out of juice with a slotted spoon and into a large bowl with **1 medium-hot red chilli, halved lengthways and thinly sliced, 1 small red onion, halved and thinly sliced, 6 tomatoes, peeled and chopped, 3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil, 2 tbsp coriander leaves** and **1 tsp salt;** lightly toss. Arrange ceviche on serving plates and scatter **1 diced large ripe but firm avocado** over.



Steamed scallops in the shell with ginger, soy, sesame oil & spring onions

Prep: 5 mins. Cooking: 5 mins. Serves 4.

16 scallops in the shell
1 tsp finely chopped fresh ginger
1 tbsp sesame oil
2 tbsp dark soy sauce
1 tbsp roughly chopped coriander
3 spring onions, thinly sliced

1 / Pour 2.5cm water into the base of a wide, shallow pan with a tight-fitting lid and bring to the boil. Loosen scallops from their shells but leave them in place. Sprinkle each one with some of the ginger. Arrange scallops, in batches if necessary, on a steamer and lower into the pan. Reduce heat to medium, cover and cook for 4mins or until just set. Remove scallops from steamer and keep warm while you cook the rest.

2 / While scallops are cooking, place sesame oil and soy sauce in a small saucepan and warm through.

3 / Place scallops on warmed plates and pour over some of the warm soy sauce and sesame oil. Sprinkle over the coriander and spring onions and serve immediately. ▶

For Rick's step-by-step guide to preparing fresh scallops, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.

Mesut's blue fish stew with chilli cornbread

Prep: 25 mins. Cooking: 25 mins. Serves 4.

4 small mackerel or herring, scaled and gutted
100ml olive oil
1 onion, halved and sliced
6 long green chillies, split lengthways
Large handful flat-leaf parsley
12 turns black peppermill
3 tomatoes, peeled and chopped
6 cloves garlic, sliced
1 lemon, skin and pith removed, sliced

Chilli cornbread

200g plain flour
70g yellow cornmeal
1 tbsp baking powder
4 tbsp chopped coriander
2-3 jalapeño chillies, deseeded and finely chopped
50g fetta, crumbled
30g soft light brown sugar
6 tbsp water
3 large eggs
70ml sunflower oil

1 / To make cornbread, preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan) and warm a baking sheet. Place paper cases in a 12-hole muffin tin.
2 / Sift flour, cornmeal, baking powder and a pinch of salt into a large bowl. Stir in coriander, chillies, fetta and sugar.
3 / Place water, eggs and oil in a jug and whisk to combine. Add to the dry ingredients and mix until just combined.
4 / Fill each paper case about two-thirds full, then sit muffin tin on warmed baking sheet. Bake for 15-20mins or until a knife inserted into the centre comes out clean. Cool in tin for 5mins.
5 / Meanwhile, sprinkle fish with salt inside and out. Pour 2 tbsp olive oil into a large saucepan with a tight-fitting lid, scatter onions in the base and lay fish on top. Tuck chillies and parsley around fish and sprinkle with pepper. Add tomatoes, garlic and lemon, then pour remaining olive oil over the top. Cover saucepan, bring to a simmer and cook over medium heat for about 25mins. Serve with warm cornbread.



For similar low casserole dish, try Victoria's Basement. **OPPOSITE TOP /** For similar cutlery, try David Jones. For similar napkin, try Linen & Moore. For similar entree plate, try Country Road. Dinner plate and tumblers, Freedom. Vase, Samantha Robinson Handmade Porcelain. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM /** Marble-look bowl, Domayne. Plate, stylist's own. Striped bowl, Freedom. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

Prawn molee

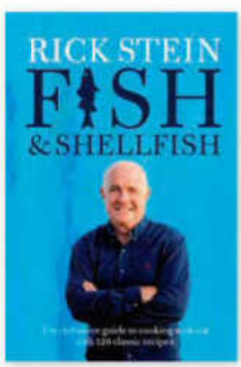
Prep: 10 mins. Cooking: 25 mins. Serves 4–6.

2 tbsp coconut oil
¼ tsp ground black pepper
3 green cardamom pods, lightly bruised with a rolling pin
6 whole cloves
2 medium brown onions, thinly sliced
3 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
5cm fresh ginger, finely shredded
2 green chillies, split lengthways, deseeded
Small handful fresh curry leaves
Small pinch turmeric
400ml coconut milk
1½ tsp toddy or white-wine vinegar
500g large raw prawns, tail-on, deveined and butterflied
2 tomatoes, thinly sliced into rounds, to garnish
Basmati rice, to serve

Heat coconut oil in a heavy-based saucepan over medium heat. Add pepper, cardamom and cloves and fry for 1min or until fragrant. Add onions and fry for 5mins or until translucent, then stir in garlic, ginger, chillies, curry leaves and 1 tsp salt; fry a further 1min. Add turmeric, coconut milk and vinegar. Bring to a simmer and cook 4–5mins or until reduced slightly, then add the prawns and simmer a further 4mins or until prawns are cooked. Scatter tomatoes on top, turn off the heat, cover pan with a lid and stand for 3–4mins before serving with rice.









Recipes from *Rick Stein: Fish & Shellfish* (BBC Books, $49.99) and new-release *Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul* (BBC Books, $55).





Grilled sardines with green herbs

Prep: 5 mins. Cooking: 5 mins. Serves 4 as an entree.

1 tsp finely grated lemon zest
½ tbsp finely chopped rosemary
1 tbsp finely chopped parsley
1 clove garlic, very finely chopped
½ tbsp finely chopped pitted green olives
½ tbsp chopped capers
8 sardines, cleaned and trimmed
Extra-virgin olive oil, for brushing and serving
Lemon wedges, to serve

1 / Mix together the lemon zest, rosemary, parsley, garlic, olives, capers, salt and pepper. Set aside.
2 / Preheat grill to high. Pierce each sardine from head to tail with a bamboo skewer that has been soaked in cold water for at least 30mins. Lay sardines on a lightly oiled baking tray, drizzle with extra-virgin olive oil and sprinkle with sea salt flakes and black pepper. Grill for 2mins on each side.
3 / Scatter herb mixture over sardines then drizzle with a little more oil. Serve with lemon wedges on the side.

Grilled miso salmon with rice noodles, spring onions & bean sprouts

Prep: 15 mins. Cooking: 10 mins. Serves 4.

4x 150g salmon steaks
50ml vegetable oil
3 cloves garlic, grated
20g fresh ginger, grated
8 spring onions, sliced
1 medium red chilli, thinly sliced
200g dried rice noodles, boiled for 3mins and drained
100g bean sprouts
Small handful of coriander, chopped
1 tbsp fish sauce

Miso glaze

10g red miso paste
2 tsp balsamic vinegar
2 tsp soy sauce
1 tsp Spanish pimentón (hot smoked paprika)
1 tbsp water

1 / Place all glaze ingredients in a bowl, mix to combine then use to paint fish steaks. Place fish on an oiled grilling tray. Preheat grill to high heat.
2 / Heat vegetable oil in a wok, add garlic, ginger, spring onions and chilli and stir-fry 2-3mins. Add noodles, bean sprouts and coriander; mix to combine and remove from heat.
3 / Grill fish, turning once, until medium rare or 50˚C when tested in the centre with a probe, about 5mins.
4 / Stir fish sauce through stir-fried vegetables. Serve with fish.

TOP / For similar ceramic baking tray, try Myer. **BOTTOM /** For similar ridged plate, try Maxwell & Williams. Marble-look plate and ikat bowl, Domayne. **OPPOSITE /** Wok, Victoria's Basement. Hemstitch linen napkin, Sheridan.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.



Singapore chilli crab

Prep: 5 mins. Cooking: 10 mins. Serves 4.

4 tbsp sunflower oil
2x 900g cooked crabs, cut in pieces for stir-frying and brown meat reserved (ask your fishmonger to prepare them for you)
4 large cloves garlic, finely chopped
2.5cm piece fresh ginger, finely chopped
4 tbsp tomato ketchup
3 medium red chillies, finely chopped
2 tbsp dark soy sauce
2 spring onions, cut into 5cm pieces and shredded

Place oil in a large wok and heat over medium heat. Add crab pieces and stir-fry for 3mins, adding garlic and ginger after 1min. Add about a quarter of the reserved brown meat, followed by ketchup, red chillies, soy sauce, 150ml water and black pepper to taste. Cover and simmer a further 2-3mins. Garnish with spring onions and serve immediately. **H&G**

DRINKS

PERFECT PAIRS



Enhance a delicious seafood dish with a wine that complements its particular flavours. Here's how to play wine Cupid, writes **Toni Paterson**.



Seafood and wine make a great team, but for a match that's truly made in heaven, it's important to consider both the nuances of the dish and the wine.

The method of cooking (or not) greatly impacts the flavour of the seafood, as does the presence or absence of shells or bones. Sauces or dressings, herbs, spices, garlic and lemon also need to be considered, especially if chilli is in the mix.

Oysters served au naturel are simply divine with Eden Valley riesling. If dressed with something acidic such as an eschalot vinaigrette or a good squeeze of lemon, however, then a young Hunter Valley semillon is in order.

Matching wine to a raw fish dish largely depends on the accompanying flavours. A fine-boned Champagne such as NV Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label, $75, enhances an elegant plate of hiramasa kingfish with olive oil and micro herbs, whereas salmon carpaccio with a Japanese-inspired dressing needs a more assertive drop – 2014 Cherubino Laissez Faire Fiano, $29, which has stone fruit flavours and minerality, would do nicely.

Smoked fish has completely different needs. Aged riesling and semillon are excellent options due to the smoky, toasty and nutty characters that develop with age. Try the 2009 Peter Lehmann Margaret Semillon $32, a great example of its type.

A classic seafood cocktail with king prawns and Marie Rose sauce is always delightful. Pair with the perfectly balanced and completely delicious 2015 Bird in Hand Pinot Rosé, $25.

Sweet, meaty and luxurious lobster needs a substantial wine. A modern Australian chardonnay, particularly from the Yarra Valley, Adelaide Hills or WA, is an excellent option. I like the 2013 Xanadu Chardonnay, $35, or a 2013 Alkoomi Frankland River Chardonnay, $24.

While steamed fish goes well with a fresh white such as 2014 Seppeltsfield Vermentino, $22, roasted fish needs a weightier drop. For something different, try the highly appealing 2013 Pittnauer Rosé, $24, made from the Austrian variety blaufränkish. This wine is a good option with a steaming pot of mussels too.

Oily fish such as tuna requires a wine with good flavour and integrated acidity. Cooked rare and served with tomato and caper concasse, it would pair nicely with the 2013 Ross Hill Pinnacle Series Pinot Noir, $40, which is beautifully aromatic and poised. Salmon also works well with pinot, though a weightier style is best. Try 2013 Domaine Chandon Pinot Noir, $31.

Squid can be a little tricky. Fresh, bright whites like 2014 Hay Shed Hill Sauvignon Blanc Semillon, $20, work well if scored squid is lightly seared with garlic, salt and citrus zest. But when simmered in a sauce, the earthy characters become quite pronounced, so a light red such as a gamay or a pinot can be a good option. **H&G**

TONI'S TOP DROPS

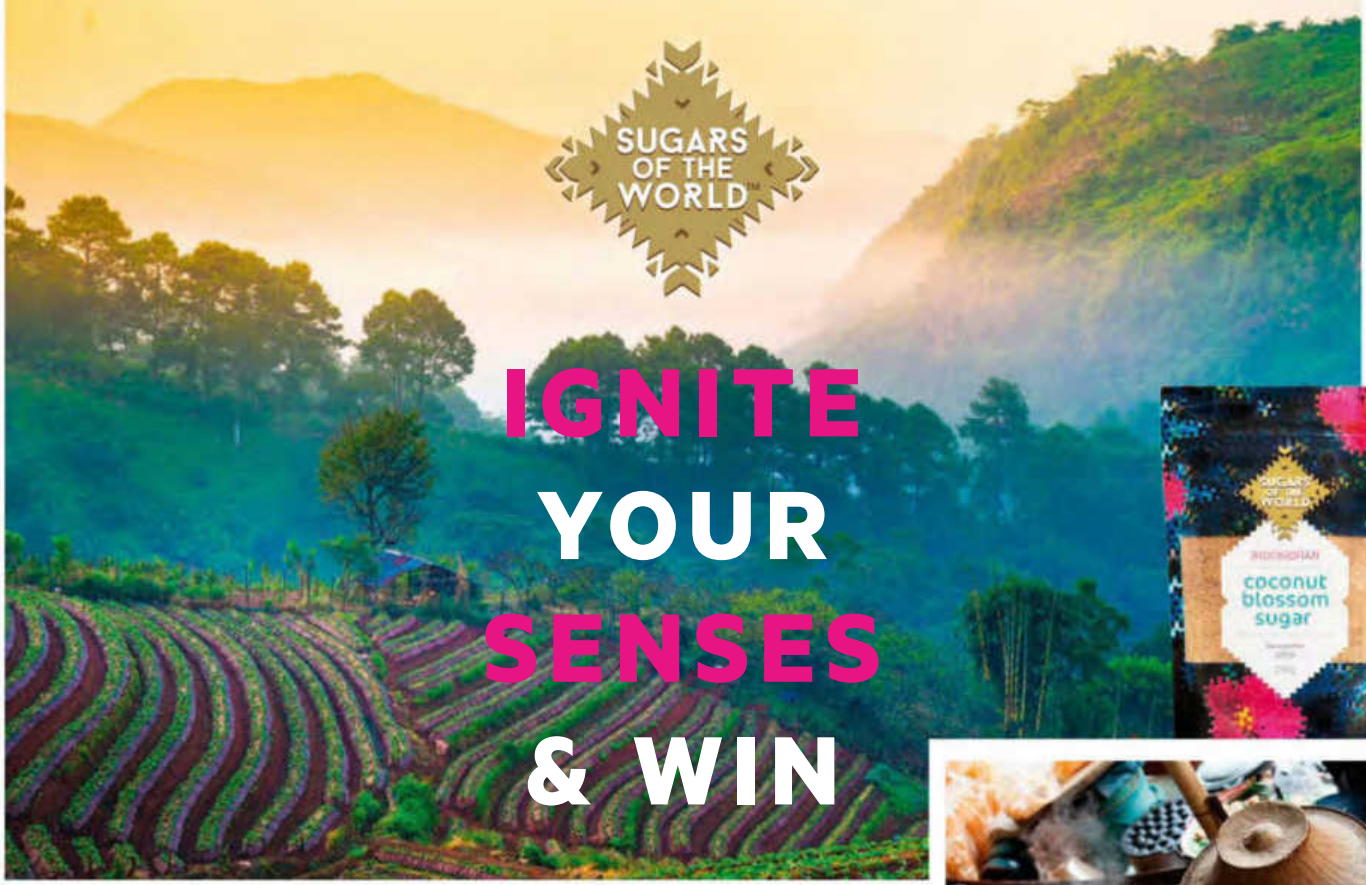
2014 Voyager Estate Sauvignon Blanc Semillon, $24
An energetic and focused wine with beautiful bright passionfruit notes. Zippy, grassy, tight and delicious.

2014 Pizzini Pinot Grigio, $21
Light, bright and lovely with fresh fruit-salad flavours and a gorgeous texture. An ideal lunchtime wine and perfect with fish and chips.

NV Hanging Rock Macedon Brut Rosé, $33
A full-flavoured bubbly with extraordinary weight, complexity and texture. A perfect complement to salmon sashimi.

2014 Ross Hill Pinnacle Series Chardonnay, $25
A seriously good cool-climate chardonnay with impeccable balance. Completely divine now but a few years age will see its true colours revealed.

Photograph by Will Horner.



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TERMS AND CONDITIONS: **Entrants must retain their original valid purchase receipt as proof of purchase to validate their entry.** Promotion opens on 25th June and will close 23:59pm AEST on August 31st, 2015. Open to all Australian residents aged 18 years and over. One entry permitted per person. Check local stores/stockists for availability of Sugars Of The World product. The Major Prize must be redeemed in full and as a package by 10th September 2016. The Major Prize must be booked by Tuesday 10th November 2015. The winner and their companion must be 18 years and over to redeem the prize. For full terms and conditions please see http://www.bauer-media.com.au/terms/competition-terms. See http://www.bauer-media.com.au/privacy.htm for Bauer Media's Privacy Notice. If you do not want your information given to any other organisation not associated with this promotion, please indicate this clearly on your entry. The Promoter is Bauer Media Pty Ltd (ABN 18 053 273 546).



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ENTERTAINING

AT MY TABLE



At this time of year we're spoilt for choice when it comes to fresh, abundant produce. Take advantage, writes **Jared Ingersoll.**

Styling by Michaela Le Compte. Photography by John Paul Urizar.

There is always something wonderful about watching the seasons change and different ingredients ripen to their flavoursome best, but spring offers something truly special. Spring heralds new beginnings: the first shoots and baby greens as well as lamb and abundant fish. There is still a freshness in the air to remind us of the recent winter, however, and there was a time in our culinary past when we would still be consuming the last of our winter stores of salted and preserved meats. I love combining the two – last season's leftovers with herbaceous new-season greens. If you're stuck for meal ideas, take inspiration from the bounty around you at the produce markets or supermarket. What you serve should always be what looks best that day and there is no better time for that kind of thinking than spring.

GRAVLAX WITH ALOE GRANITA & SPROUTS

Prep: 20 mins + freezing. Serves 6.

250ml store-bought aloe vera drink
2 avocados
1 lemon
2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
1 punnet alfalfa sprouts
600g gravlax or cured salmon
1 fresh green or red chili, finely sliced
Micro radish leaves, to serve

1 / To make granita, pour aloe vera drink into a shallow dish and freeze overnight or until frozen solid. Using a fork, quickly scrape aloe vera into crystals, then return to freezer until needed, at least 2–3hrs.
2 / Coarsely chop avocado then place in a large bowl with lemon juice, salt and olive oil; gently toss to combine.
3 / To assemble, place alfalfa sprouts on a platter then arrange salmon on top. Scatter avocado and sliced chilli over, then drizzle with olive oil and lemon juice mixture. Finish with aloe vera granita and micro radish leaves. Serve immediately.

POACHED HAM WITH LETTUCE & PEAS

Prep: 20 mins. Cooking: 1 hr 15 mins. Serves 4-6.

2 smoked ham hocks, cut in half
3L chicken stock
4 sprigs fresh thyme
8 black peppercorns
3 baby cos lettuce, cut in half lengthways
900g fresh or thawed frozen peas
Chopped parsley, to serve
Snow pea shoots, to serve
Grated parmesan, to serve
Mustard, to serve

1 / Place ham hocks in a saucepan and cover with chicken stock, add thyme and peppercorns. Bring to the boil then reduce heat to low and simmer for 45mins or until meat starts to soften (top up liquid with more stock or water if needed).
2 / Remove hocks from liquid with a slotted spoon and set aside. Skim fat from stock and strain into a clean saucepan. Return to stove over high heat and simmer until reduced by half.
3 / Place lettuce cut-side up in a casserole dish and pour reduced stock over. Braise on stove over low heat for 10mins, then add peas and cook a further 10mins.
4 / Remove meat from bones, nestle among vegetables and allow to warm through, about 3mins. Scatter chopped parsley and snowpea sprouts on top. Serve with grated parmesan, mustard and crusty bread. **H&G**



IF YOU'RE STUCK FOR MEAL IDEAS, TAKE INSPIRATION FROM THE BOUNTY AROUND YOU.

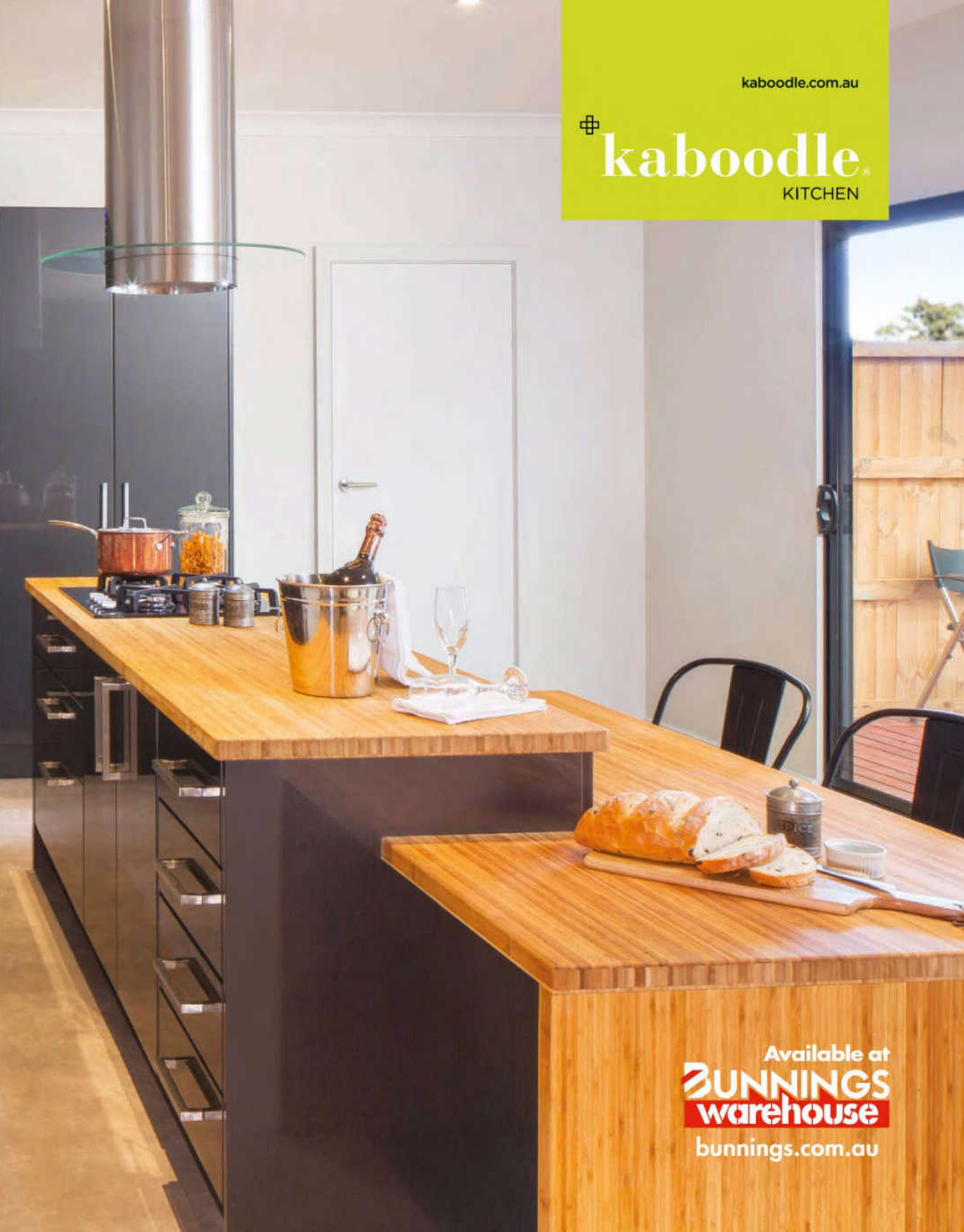
For a bonus recipe, asparagus pie, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.



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Looking radiant with its pastel palette, this Minosa kitchen has the wow factor. To see more, turn to page 176.

All the ingredients to create a knockout kitchen

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

INSPIRATION / TRENDS / MATERIALS / NEWS / SHOPPING

Photograph by Nicole England.

Point of view

With her home located in an idyllic setting – on an island in the Manning River, on the NSW Mid North Coast – Amanda Evans had a clear priority when it came to renovating the kitchen in her 1970s split-level house: she wanted a room with a view. The original U-shaped kitchen had a small window that didn't take advantage of the amazing vista. Internal arches and walls also partitioned the kitchen/pantry/breakfast room into a confined space. The brief was to "open things up", make the kitchen more accessible and turn it into the home's social centre.

The design solution Interior designer Stewart Horton transformed the space by extending it a few square metres towards the river and installing a wraparound picture window. He removed arches and internal walls to free up the room, which now measures 7x3m, and installed an island bench to improve circulation. The small pantry was enlarged to create a walk-in butler's pantry. "The design needed to be contemporary to make sense in this '70s-era house, so the overall look is pared back and minimal," says Stewart. ▶

Horton&Co Design, New Lambton, NSW; (02) 4957 1672 or www.hortonandco.com.au.

Ideas at work

Amanda initially envisioned a country-style kitchen but Stewart felt that this would be at odds with the '70s character of the house. "I thought the kitchen should have subtle hints of a country kitchen, yet in a super-modern way," he says.

The black and white palette is timeless. "It had to be timeless to mesh with what was existing," says Stewart. "Pared back to black and white, it's the details that make it special."

Stewart has 'framed' elements in black for visual balance. "It creates a contrast that isn't too heavy."

The framework of the island bench, made of ebonised timber veneer, forms table legs. "It creates the effect of a bespoke table," says Stewart.

Brass elements such as the pendant lights, stool legs and tap add patina and richness to the scheme. The island bench is 2.1x1m with a 400mm overhang to accommodate seating.

Stained turpentine | *Frosted glass* | *Engineered stone*



✚ The home is completely private due to its secluded location, but Stewart added roman blinds in a pale grey sheer to soften the window and provide insulation.

✚ Stewart didn't want drawer and cupboard handles to be prominent. Black pulls with a minimal silhouette "disappear just enough".

✚ The floorboards have been stained a warm walnut hue to reduce the redness of the original timber.

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Photography by Jane Kelly. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



Appliances

LG french-door **fridge.**
Miele **oven and** built-in **microwave oven.**
Smeg induction **cooktop.**
AFA undermounted double **sink.**
Fisher & Paykel **DishDrawers.**

✚ Overhead cabinets in ebonised timber veneer form a dramatic backdrop. Cupboard fronts are fluted glass so the items inside aren't highly visible.

✚ The 60mm-thick Quantum Quartz benchtop is white with "a soft movement of black", says Stewart. This material has also been used for the splashback.

The details

White joinery is two-pac polyurethane in Dulux Vivid White with 30-per-cent gloss finish, Viison Kitchens.
Black cabinet frames are Carbon timber veneer, $64/m², Slice Veneers.
Benchtop and splashback are Bianco Venato Quartz engineered stone, from $550/m² (installed), Quantum Quartz.
Floorboards are original turpentine hardwood with walnut stain.
Pendant light is Il Fanale Anversa, $3200, LightCo.
Arteriors Wyndham swivel stools with iron legs in vintage brass finish and timber seat, $730/each, Boyd Blue.
Mixer tap is Icon A69.08 gooseneck in Aged Brass, $714, Astra Walker.
Roman blind in Carlucci Butterscotch fabric, POA, Unique Fabrics.
Total cost of kitchen: about $70,000.

For Where to Buy, see page 232.

'I love the combination of the clean-lined finishes with touches of wood, brass and black. It enables the kitchen to feel cosy even though it's all white.'
Amanda Evans, homeowner



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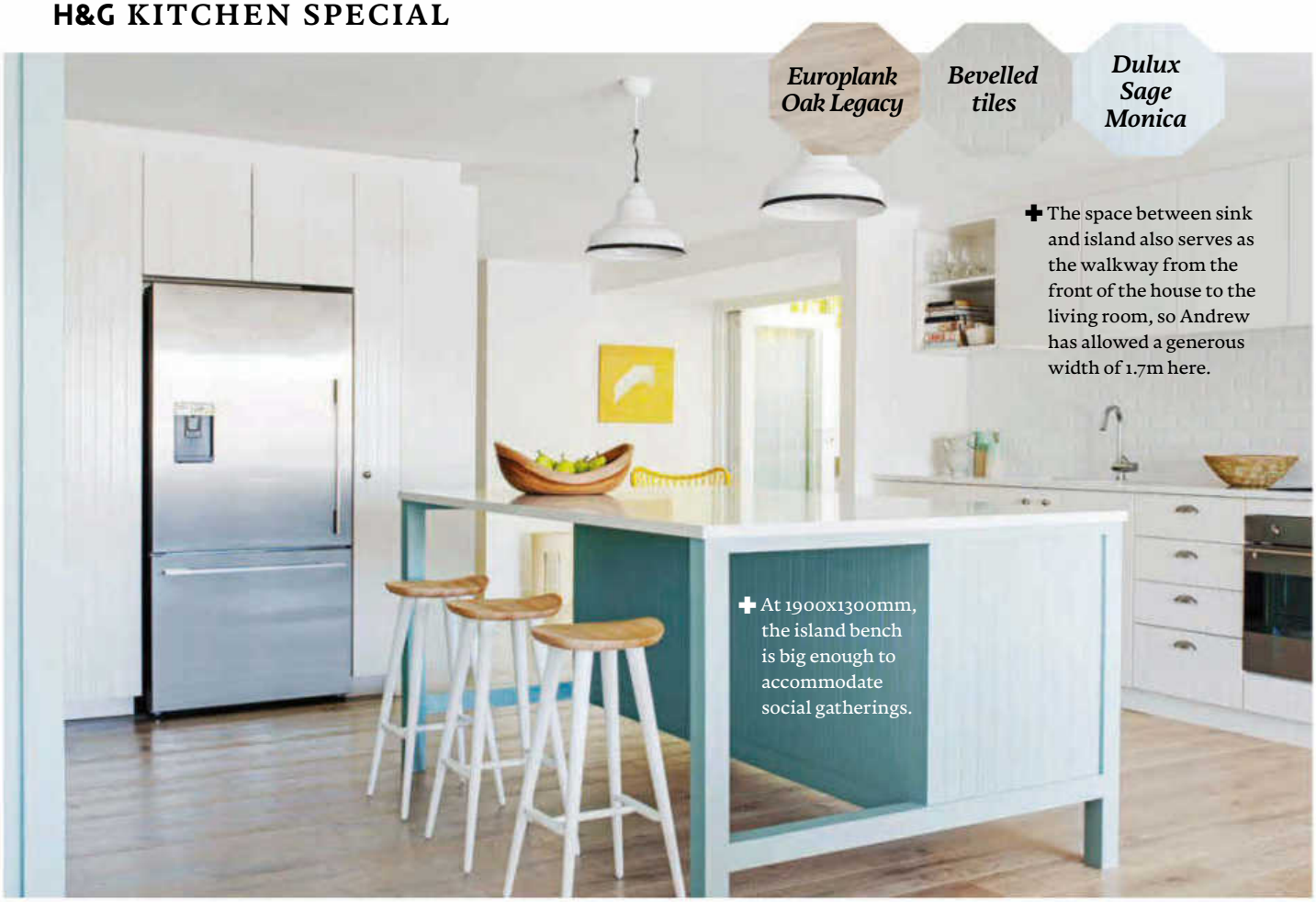
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Salute to the sun

As soon as they purchased this 1970s home on Sydney's Northern Beaches, the owners were desperate to remodel the kitchen. The original space was cut off from the rest of the house and contained a partition wall that obscured potential water views. The owners wanted an airy, light-filled room that would embrace the beachside location, with an eat-in breakfast area for casual family dining and greater connection to the rest of the home.

The design solution "It's modern-Australian beach style," says interior architect Andrew Waller, who devised the dreamy scheme of powdery blue and off-white. To open up the room, he knocked down the partition wall and raised the ceiling. Now the 5x5.5m space connects to an adjacent living area with views to the water. Coastal chic references abound, including whitewashed flooring and cabinetry in a V-joint profile that makes a subtle reference to tongue-and-groove weatherboards used in traditional beach houses. ▶

Andrew Waller Design, Redfern, NSW; 0422 992 676 or www.mrwaller.com.

Ideas at work

The colour palette and materials are derived from the coastal location. "They reinterpret the classic beach house in a contemporary way," says Andrew.

The joinery, designed by Andrew and built by CMK Joinery, consists of built-in cabinets plus freestanding island and pantry units. "The pantry and island are designed as furniture," says Andrew. "This loosens the structured feeling of the kitchen and allows the space to feel more open."

Colour delineates the two styles of joinery: built-in units are painted the same white as the walls, while freestanding furniture is blue. This means the island and pantry become focal points while the wall joinery recedes from view.

The details

The island bench and pantry are Tasmanian oak painted in Dulux Sage Monica, $47/L.

White cabinetry is MDF with V-joints in polyurethane finish in Natural White $42/L, Dulux.

Benchtops in 15mm Luna White engineered stone, from $400/m² (installed), Quantum Quartz.

Splashback tiles are Abbey 75x150mm subway tiles in White Gloss, $56/m², Skheme.

Floorboards are Europlank Oak Legacy White Rustic Grade engineered timber, about $121/m², Havwoods.

Miniforms Lechuck oiled beech stools, $721/each, Café Culture+Insitu.

Pendant lights are Brasserie Overhead pendants in Black, $275/each, Emac & Lawton.

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Photography by Nicholas Watt. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



Appliances

Fisher & Paykel ActiveSmart 519L **fridge.**
Smeg 34L **microwave.**
Smeg 72cm five-burner gas **cooktop.**
Smeg 70cm stainless-steel 90L **oven.**
Oliveri Sonetto **sink.**
Asko integrated **dishwasher.**
Oliveri P2030 Essentials **tap.**

✚ Prior to the renovation, the kitchen was poky and had a low bulkhead concealing plumbing from an upstairs bathroom. Andrew redesigned the bathroom and raised the ceiling height in the kitchen.

✚ Andrew designed an appliance cupboard with a bifold door system that allows this busy area to be easily closed off when the family is entertaining, an important consideration when the kitchen is open to social areas.

✚ The island and pantry are raised off the floor on legs. This makes the space feel more open and is in keeping with the furniture in the adjacent living room.

✚ Floorboards with a whitewashed effect and the V-joint profile of the joinery play on the traditional Australian beach-house vernacular.

Recycled blackbutt *Recycled face brick* *Polished concrete*



✚ The giant sliding door is made from dark-stained timber and the deck flooring is spotted gum.

✚ A 7.8m-long bench extends from the indoor sink to the barbecue servery. A 'pass-through' window connects the indoor and outdoor kitchens.

Future-friendly

The desire to live a more sustainable lifestyle was the driving force that shaped the renovation of this Californian bungalow in Melbourne. The owners, a couple with young children, were determined to utilise recycled and repurposed materials wherever possible in this project. For their new kitchen, they wanted to create an industrial/vintage aesthetic in an earthy colour palette, with a layout that would connect the interior with the deck and garden.

The design solution Architect Adam Grundmann of BG Architecture, an advocate of sustainability himself, felt right at home with this brief. He started by stripping back the space to expose the brick walls. "We then looked at a range of strong natural products to complement the brick and the recycled-timber floorboards," says Adam. The materials palette includes raw grey concrete benchtops, marine ply for the ceilings and an extraordinary slab of recycled ironbark for the island bench. ▶

BG Architecture, St Kilda, Victoria; (03) 9525 3390 or www.bgarchitecture.com.au.

Ideas at work

Timber, concrete, bricks and metal were key material choices. "We wanted a natural colour palette that allowed the natural expression of each material," says Adam.

Black and white joinery complements the earthier elements. "The natural materials become the hero and define the aesthetic," says Adam.

The island bench was designed as a piece of bespoke furniture, topped with a slab of ironbark recycled from a factory.

In keeping with the mission to harness authentic and honest materials, the flooring is recycled blackbutt, salvaged from an old pier.

The details

Concrete splashback and benchtops, about $7700, Rutso Concreting.

Black cabinetry in plywood formwork board clad with laminate cladding.

White cabinetry is Thermo Formed vinyl wrap cabinetry in White Satin finish, from $130/m², Albedor Industries.

Benchtop is a 2.9m recycled-ironbark slab, about $2875, Shiver Me Timbers.

Floorboards are 160mm recycled blackbutt, about $95/m², Shiver Me Timbers.

Pendant lights are Mrs T LED pendants, $1023/each, Darkon.

Viccarbe Last Minute stools, $795/each, Hub Furniture Lighting Living.

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Photography by Michelle Williams. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



✚ To conceal structural work, Adam has created bulkheads wrapped in marine plywood that continues down the wall, both indoors and outside, blurring the line between inside and out.

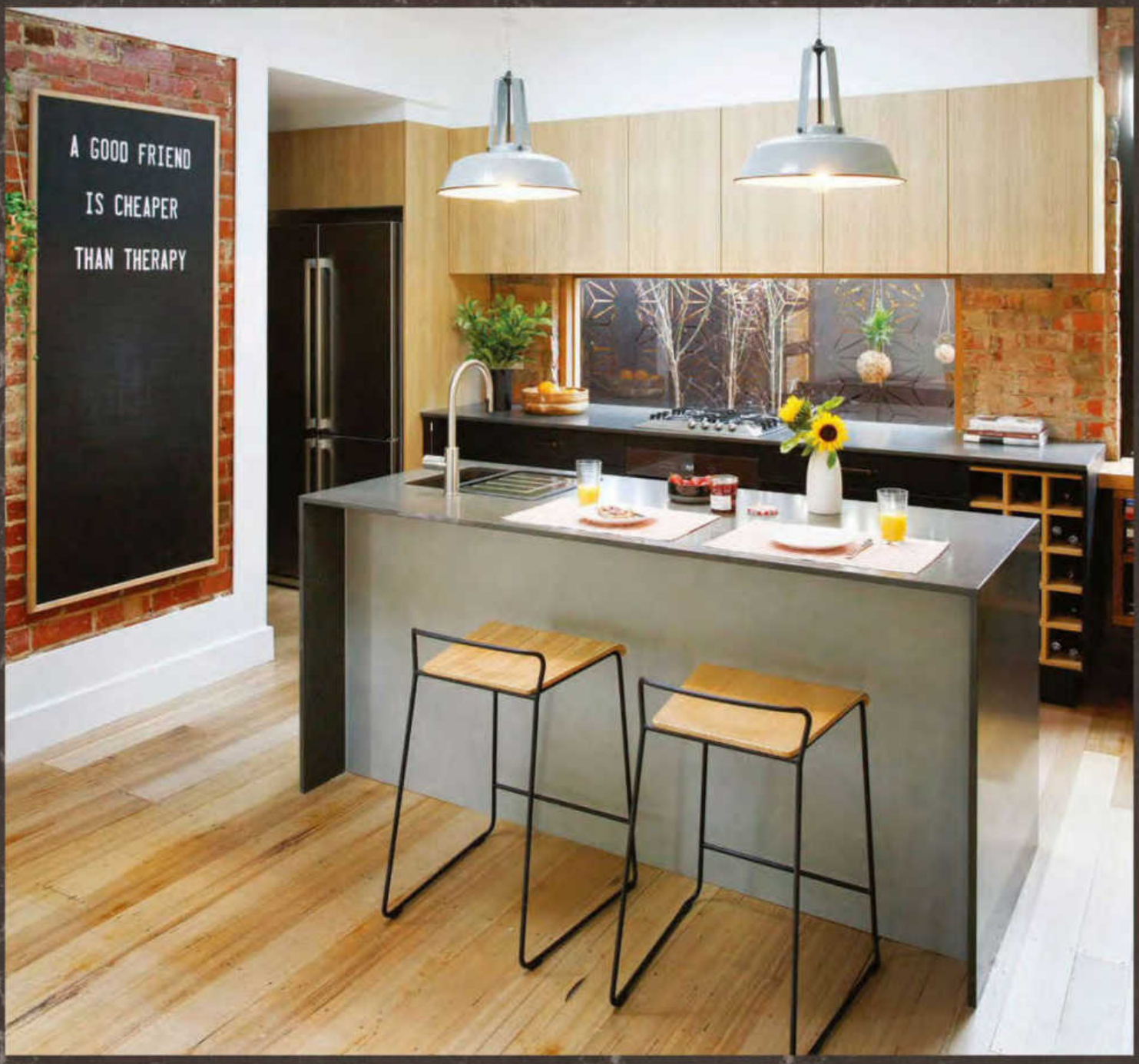
Appliances

Miele 60cm integrated **dishwasher**.
Smeg 70cm electric **wall oven.**
Smeg 87cm five-burner gas **cooktop.**
Fisher & Paykel ActiveSmart integrated 519L **fridge.**
Abey The Daintree undermount double-bowl **sink.**

✚ At a height of 90cm the 2.9m long island bench serves as a dining table with potential for seating on both sides. It also has built-in storage, with drawers facing the sink.

✚ The 60mm-thick polished concrete benchtop and 25mm-thick concrete splashback were poured on site.

✚ Constructed with a steel frame and raised off the floor, the island bench is sturdy but doesn't look too heavy within the space.



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Appliances

Belling Richmond 90cm freestanding dual-fuel **stove.** Westinghouse integrated **fridge.** Bosch integrated **dishwasher.** Abey Australia Lago undermounted stainless-steel **sink.** Early Settler & Recollections **tap.**

Classic beauty

Like any well-prepared renovators, Sheridan and Brendan Paul collected pictorial references to help them plan their new kitchen, part of an extension to their 1950s-era Sydney bungalow. As parents of three children, they wanted generous storage, an island bench for entertaining and a dining nook where the kids could have meals and do their homework. Regarding colours, they were drawn to whites and neutrals but didn't want a completely white room.

The design solution "We started with all the 'wanted' elements and looked at how they could fit and flow in the space," says interior designer Alexandra Morris of Morris Selvatico Interior Design. Located on the new upper level of the home, the kitchen is a generous 23m² to accommodate all desired inclusions. Taking her cues from the Pauls' references, Alexandra has created a Hamptons-esque white scheme broken up by elegant black detailing in the form of kitchen stools, pendant lights and cabinetry. ▶

Morris Selvatico Interior Design, Neutral Bay, NSW; (02) 9380 2380 or www.morrisselvatico.com.

✚ A handy appliance nook is concealed behind the tall white cupboards.

✚ The base of the banquette seating conceals pull-out drawers to accommodate the children's art and craft supplies.

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Photography by Jason Busch. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



Ideas at work

The classic colour palette, newly installed cornices, freestanding stove, detailed joinery and exposed handles were all selected to evoke a Hamptons feel.

Black was the obvious foil for this all-white room, says Alexandra. "Black and white kitchens are classic and don't date. We wanted to highlight the overhead glass cupboards and a strong contrasting colour like black was perfect to achieve this."

Glass-fronted cabinets were designed as a nod to the architectural detailing throughout the house. "The doors and windows throughout the home have cross bars, so we wanted to echo this effect," says Alexandra. "Rather than replicate the design, we made the design more decorative, so the cupboards become the focal point for the room."

The 1x3.4m island bench is a generously sized socialising space.

The round dining table is placed to capture the morning sun. Surrounded on two sides by banquette seating, it creates the "ultimate sun-drenched dining nook", says Alexandra.

A bifold servery window connects the kitchen and deck.

The details

Cabinetry is Navlam Arcadian Oak sandblasted timber veneer, 18mm thick, from $622/3mx1.2m sheet, New Age Veneers.

White joinery in two-pac polyurethane in Dulux Lexicon (quarter strength) with a matt finish, constructed by Scarelli Joinery.

Benchtops are Calacutta Quartz engineered stone, from $700/m² (installed), Quantum Quartz.

Splashback tiles are white gloss non-rectified 75x150mm tiles, $34/m², Skheme.

Vienna stools in Black, $351/each, Prototype.

Pendant lights are Il Fanale Brasserie large pendants in Black, $295/each, Magins.

Docksta round dining table, $249, Ikea.

Princess chairs in White with embossed seat and 'socks' on legs, $275/each, James Richardson Furniture.

Floorboards are Prestige Oak 220mm-wide engineered-timber in Cannes, about $150/m², Preference Floors.

Walls are painted in Antique White USA, $42/L, Dulux.

Total cost of kitchen (including banquette joinery): about $39,400. ▶

For Where to Buy, see page 232.



NSW

Brookvale
10-18 Orchard Rd

Crows Nest
113 Alexander St

Narellan
Unit 6-7, 8 Maxwell Pl

Northmead
6 Boundary Rd

Redfern
18 Danks St

Taren Point
12/120 Taren Point Rd

Newcastle
61 Darby St

QLD

Fortitude Valley
209 Brunswick St

Indooroopilly
U1, 272 Moggill Rd

WA

Joondalup
Shop T3, 1 Sundew Rise

Osborne Park
U3, 22 King Edward Rd

O'Connor
U1, 2 Stockdale Rd

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CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK

A serial renovator and reality TV veteran faces the challenge of overhauling his own kitchen.



✚ Open shelving adds industrial flair. David sketched what they wanted and Angie found a ready-made version to match: a Conveyor shelf unit from Freedom.

David's tips for home renos

Keep an open mind when you're sourcing products. It's great to have a direction, but don't set any ideas in stone or you'll be disappointed. If you can't find the exact thing, don't stress out; go for an alternative that will work just as well.

Be happy with your decisions. Do your research so that when you're bombarded with options and 'What if...?' questions, you'll be able to make a selection. Make a decision, stick to it and feel good about it. Renovators must be good decision-makers.

Keep a close eye on your materials palette as your design takes shape. Be prepared to make changes if some of the elements are fighting visually. We originally wanted handpainted Turkish tiles for this kitchen but changed tack because it would have been too visually busy.

Design for your lifestyle, not just resale value. You have to think about the way you live. For example, we have a smaller than standard fridge without a freezer because we believe in eating fresh food daily.

Travertine tiles *Caesarstone London Grey* *Black cabinetry*



✚ The couple choose an Ilve cooker in white and cabinet pulls in antique brass from Overstock.

✚ A combination of black and natural timber is subtly repeated throughout the scheme. The timber pendant is from Beacon Lighting.

✚ The black Subline 400 undermount sink and Linus-S mixer are from Blanco.

✚ Benchtops (including the waterfall edges on this island unit) are Caesarstone in London Grey, 40mm thick.

As co-creator of television series *The Block,* David Barbour has witnessed dozens of kitchen makeovers in his time and knows every trick in the renovator's notebook. But that didn't dent his enthusiasm for his own recent kitchen overhaul. "I'm a serial renovator. I watch [renovations] all day and then I come home and do it for real myself," he says.

When David and partner Angie Summa (pictured opposite with Tank the English Staffordshire terrier) bought a 100-year-old home on Sydney's Northern Beaches last year, the kitchen was the area of most concern. It was dated and cut off from the dining and living areas. By removing a fireplace and a section of wall, they created an L-shaped, socially conducive kitchen/dining room that allows them to connect their twin loves of cooking and entertaining. "It was all about getting that flow happening between the two spaces," says David.

Stylistically, the couple opted for 'French Provincial with a modern twist', the contemporary angle being evident in the matt-black cabinetry and semi-industrial touches. They enlisted Sydney Kitchens to give their ideas practical and enduring form. ▶

Sydney Kitchens; (02) 9967 8789 or sydneykitchens.com.au.



✚ Matt-black cabinetry features vacuum-sealed Calais doors in a classic Oberon profile.

✚ They sourced travertine tiles from Exclusive Tiles and laid them in a traditional French pattern, using three sizes laid randomly.

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Styling by Ashley Pratt. Photography by John Paul Urizar. For Where to Buy, see page 232.

kitchen news





"TRADITIONAL STYLES WILL MAKE A COMEBACK," PREDICTS CHRISTIAN BECKER, NATIONAL SALES LEADER FOR IKEA KITCHENS, BASED ON THE RESPONSE TO THE NEW IKEA METOD RANGE (ABOVE). "WE EXPECT GLASS-PANED CABINETRY AND PORCELAIN HANDLES TO BE POPULAR."



SHINE A LIGHT

For task lighting that's easy on the eye in every sense, look to this new Harvest pendant light in Copper, $299. Made from iron with a rust finish and edgy cage feature, it's been designed with a rustic/ industrial aesthetic in mind. Beacon Lighting; 1300 232 266 or www.beaconlighting.com.au.

CAST-IRON CHEF

These cute cast-iron mini cocottes, $125/each, are perfect for cooking individual portions and come in a fab range of colours. Staub; (02) 9425 5000 or cg.dksh.com.au.

The beater generation

Retro-styled small appliances have been selling out like proverbial hotcakes. While this Smeg kitchen mixer (below), $799, embodies Technicolor 1950s glamour, it's also a thoroughly modern powerhouse, with an 800W motor and 10-speed variable power. Smeg; (02) 8667 4888 or www.smeg.com.au.



Planning for gold

Bunnings makes it easy to visualise your new kitchen with a new 3D planner that virtually builds and previews a room based on the Kaboodle Kitchen Flatpax system. Create a layout and select cabinets, colours, benchtops, handles and appliances... the full kit and caboodle! Go to planners.bunnings.com.au.



A richer brew

Add a dash of colour to your caffeine kick. Nespresso's Breville Inissia & Aeroccino 3 coffeemaker and frother duo in Tropical Green (above), $249, would look right at home in a kitchen with white, black and timber tones. 1300 139 798 or www.breville.com.au.



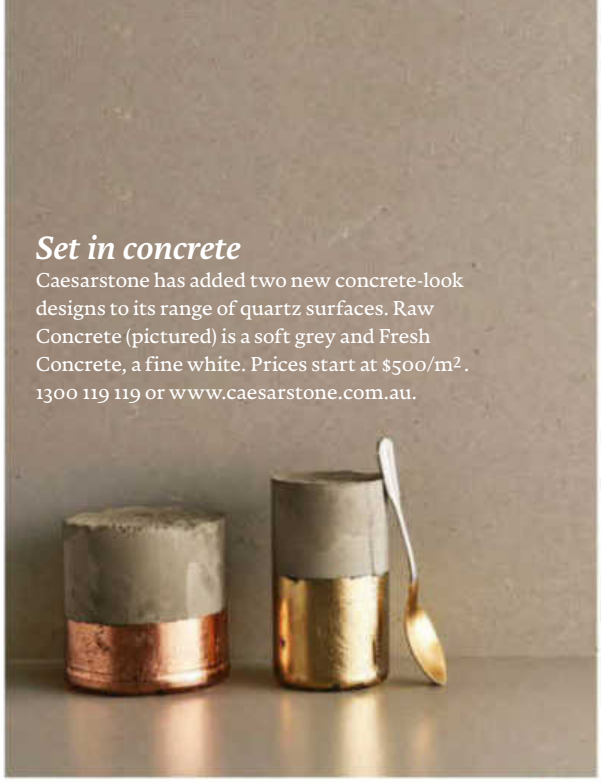
Goodness of grains

It's easy to understand why timber grain is so popular in kitchen designs: it brings satisfying organic warmth into the heart of the home. New laminate designs in the Laminex Silk Finish range offer true-to-nature woodgrain looks in a glossy melamine finish. Clockwise from top: Jericho, Burnished Wood, Domain and Sublime Teak, from $66/m². 132 136 or www.laminex.com.au.



Set in concrete

Caesarstone has added two new concrete-look designs to its range of quartz surfaces. Raw Concrete (pictured) is a soft grey and Fresh Concrete, a fine white. Prices start at $500/m². 1300 119 119 or www.caesarstone.com.au.



SLIM LINES AND HANDLE-FREE ACCESS ARE HALLMARKS OF THE SLEEK, CHIC NEW PHOENIX MODULAR KITCHEN (BELOW) BY POLIFORM. DESIGNED IN ITALY, IT COMBINES MOODY HUES OF BROWN, GREY AND BLACK WITH SOLID TIMBER FINISHES. PRICES START AT $35,000. POLIFORM; (02) 8339 7570 OR WWW.POLIFORM.COM.AU.



Produced by Elizabeth Wilson.

SPLASH ZONE

Good news for cooks who make a splash: Quick-Step has introduced six new water-resistant and natural-looking laminate timber floors, $59/m². They replicate a range of surfaces from classic grains to saw-cut and reclaimed timbers. (03) 9798 0808 or www.quick-step.com.au.



3 OF A KIND: RETRO STOVES



This 90cm Classic Deluxe dual-fuel stove, $7699, has two capacious ovens and a glide-out grill. Falcon; 1800 685 899 or www.andico.com.au.



The 90cm PN90VG Nostalgie five-burner gas stove, $8069, boasts precision controls and a cool-touch door. Ilve; 1300 694 583 or ilve.com.au.



The 60cm Aga City60, $11,500, offers a large hotplate, two ovens and 14 colour choices. Aga Australia; (03) 9521 4965 or www.agaaustralia.com.au. ▶

WOW FACTOR

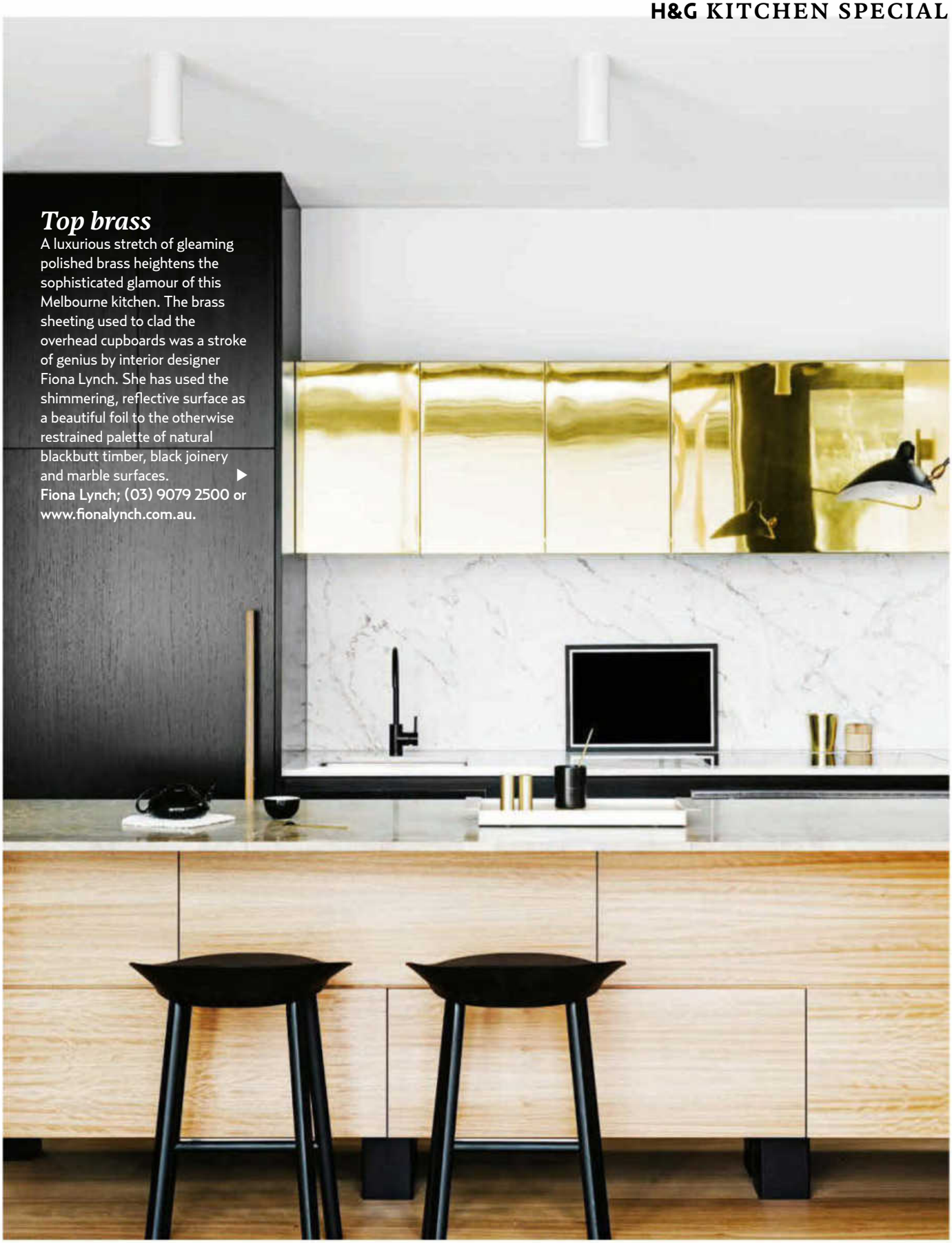
Steal ideas from this gallery of cooking spaces, each with that special something that sets it apart.



Industrial arts

With its classic colour palette and sturdy metallic bones, this Melbourne kitchen, in a renovated 150-year-old property that was once a pub, nails the elegant industrial aesthetic. Karen Alcock of MA Architects designed the space to "feel robust, almost like a commercial kitchen". The strong lines of steel bifold doors are echoed in the steel frame of the island bench, topped with an 80mm-thick slab of silvery Arabescato marble.

MA Architects; (03) 9421 6671 or www.maarchitects.com.au.

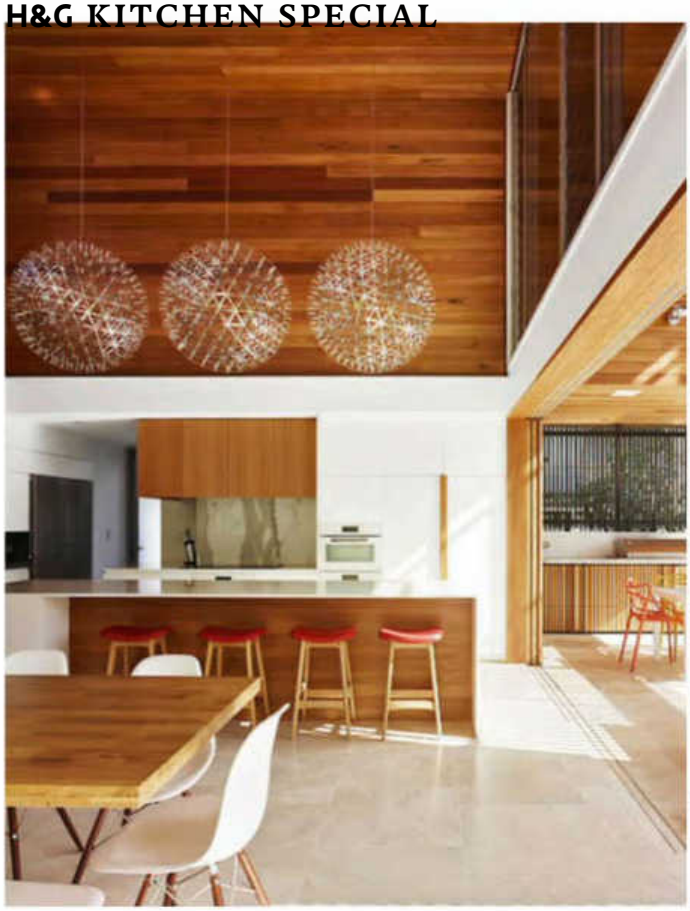


Top brass

A luxurious stretch of gleaming polished brass heightens the sophisticated glamour of this Melbourne kitchen. The brass sheeting used to clad the overhead cupboards was a stroke of genius by interior designer Fiona Lynch. She has used the shimmering, reflective surface as a beautiful foil to the otherwise restrained palette of natural blackbutt timber, black joinery and marble surfaces. ▶

Fiona Lynch; (03) 9079 2500 or www.fionalynch.com.au.

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Styling by Marsha Golemac (this page). Photography by Brooke Holm (this page) & Derek Swalwell (opposite). Artwork by Dan Hocking (this page). For Where to Buy, see page 232.



Colour coding

Subtle pastels distinguish the two-pac polyurethane drawer fronts of this kitchen, in a holiday house on the NSW South Coast. The owners asked for a welcoming, relaxed space, so designer Darren Genner of Minosa used colour to create a focus on fun. The cabinetry design is inspired by the robust and honest form of the humble wooden pallet. Minosa; (02) 8399 0252 or www.minosadesign.com.



Great heights

A soaring 5.5m ceiling is integral to this Brisbane kitchen (above), designed as a 'breathable' space that embraces its subtropical climate. Rich blackbutt timber wraps the walls and continues on the ceiling, inside and out, reinforcing the connection between indoors and outside. Three large lighting fixtures – Moooi Raimond pendant lights from Space – look like mid-air fireworks and fill the volume of space beautifully.
Shaun Lockyer Architects; (07) 3257 7288 or www.lockyerarchitects.com.au.

Totally wrapped

"A lot of thought was given to the junction between the bulkhead and the tall elements," says interior designer Amber Ma of Austin Design Associates, in reference to the striking wall/ceiling treatment in this Melbourne kitchen (right). The solution was to clad the bulkhead in American oak and use the same timber for a wall of joinery that conceals the walk-in pantry and the integrated Liebherr fridge/freezer with timber handles. ▶
Austin Design Associates; (03) 9592 6411 or www.austindesign.com.au.



'We knew the kitchen would be the heart of this home, and would be a place not only for cooking but for gathering and entertaining.'
Jen Negline, Shaun Lockyer Architects

Photograph by Nicole England (Minosa). For Where to Buy, see page 232.


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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT / LUZ1-BC **sink mixer,** 4-star WELS rating, in Brushed Chrome with matt-black accents, $660, Abey Australia. 02-9211 Culinary Gaston pull-down **sink mixer** with 360-degree swivel spout, 4 stars, $399, Methven. Vixen **sink mixer** in Matt Black with chrome accents, 4 stars, $398, Dorf. A69.08.V2Icon **sink mixer** in Tuscan Bronze, 5 stars, $761, Astra Walker.



FROM LEFT / G 6995 SCVi XXL integrated **dishwasher,** 3.5–star energy rating, $4299, Miele. ESL6610RO integrated **dishwasher,** 3-star energy rating, $1619, Electrolux. SMV88TX01A integrated **dishwasher,** 4-star energy rating, $2249, Bosch.



FROM LEFT / Piano Flush 90cm five-burner **gas cooktop,** $2599, Ilve. MaxiSense B1C95T 88cm **induction cooktop** with extra-large cooking zones and 3700W Super Boost function, $2299, Blanco. Volcano HG1885SD 80cm **gas cooktop** with wok burner, $2799, Asko.



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE LEFT / RX611DUX1 610L Side By Side **fridge** with ice and water dispensers and Fast Freeze, Chill and Holiday modes, $2699, Fisher & Paykel. LG Door-in-Door **fridge** with CustomChill drawer, designed to minimise cool air loss and provide easy access to most commonly used items, $5799 (910L) or 701L, $5499, (701L), LG. FAB32XRX 330L frost-free **fridge/freezer** in Pastel Blue, one of Smeg's retro range, $5690, Smeg.



Produced by Elizabeth Wilson. Photograph by Derek Swalwell, courtesy Mim Design (top left). For Where to Buy, see page 232.

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Electrolux stainless-steel trio: EVEP613SB 60cm pyrolytic ovens, $2589/each, EHG953SA 90cm gas cooktop, $1179, and ERC925SA 90cm touch-control rangehood, $1289, all Masters Home Improvement; www.masters.com.au.

BUYER'S GUIDE

OVENS

It's full steam ahead for these hard-working appliances, with manufacturers now offering a raft of intuitive and impressive features, writes **Georgia Madden.**





BURNING QUESTIONS

There are a few things to consider before you buy a new oven. Lyndon Craig from Electrolux reveals the top four questions to ask yourself:

- Does it offer all the functions you need? Think about the kinds of food you cook regularly. If roasts, for example, are often on the menu, you will appreciate the self-cleaning abilities of a pyrolytic model.
- Is the oven simple to use? Its programs should be easy to navigate and operate.
- Does it match your other kitchen appliances? Having your oven, fridge and dishwasher share design elements will give your kitchen a polished look.
- Does the oven feel like it is of good quality? Act as though you are buying a car – open and shut the door, turn the dials, pull the handle and, finally, trust your instincts.

Can you imagine a world where roasts never burn, soufflés don't collapse, and even novice cooks feel confident about attempting complicated dishes? It's closer than you think, with the latest ovens taking the guesswork – and hard work – out of cooking.

Sophisticated sensors and automated programming are the innovations leading this cooking revolution. The latest premium ovens feature easy-to-use settings that monitor the progress of your dish every step of the way. Some emit carefully controlled blasts of steam to provide succulent joints of meat or crisp crusts; others clean themselves when your meal's done. All that's left for you to do is decide what's for dinner.

"New technology and connectivity have the potential to completely change the way we cook, helping us to experiment with different types of recipes and achieve better results," says Lyndon Craig, design director for Electrolux Group Design Asia Pacific. This advance offers exciting potential: your oven can alert you to faults, or react to what you're cooking and allow you to preheat or start baking remotely via a smartphone app.

Among the cleverest new releases is Bosch's new Series 8 range. These ovens feature intuitive ring-style touch-screen controls and Bosch Assist, a 'set and forget' function that automatically monitors and adjusts the temperature and cooking time for perfect results. Miele's latest Generation 6000 ovens also offer full-colour touch-screens that you swipe like a smartphone to browse through functions and settings, as well as updates as cooking progresses.

Flexibility is another buzzword. You'll find steam ovens for healthier cooking, combination ovens offering conventional and steam cooking (sometimes microwave functionality as well) in one model, and dual-fuel freestanding ovens combining a gas or induction cooktop with an electric oven. Self-cleaning pyrolytic and steam-cleaning functions are now almost standard, making chemical cleaning and scrubbing a thing of the past.

While freestanding ovens are ideal for larger kitchens, most of us still favour space-efficient built-ins, says Jakob Gamborg, design manager at DK Design Kitchens. "Wall ovens are by far the most popular and a must if your kitchen design allows for it." A standard freestanding oven tends to be 600-900mm wide, but some models are up to 1500mm. Think carefully about what size you really need, says Gamborg. "People often think bigger is better and buy a 900mm oven, which takes longer to heat up and might not be as user-friendly compared to a 600mm oven paired with a multi-function microwave."

Current design trends favour the sleek and seamless, with black glass, stainless steel and integrated knobs and handles. "The homogenous aesthetic is huge, where, for example, your oven, microwave and coffee machine all carry the same design aesthetic," says Jim Kalotheos, national marketing manager for Smeg. At the other end of the spectrum are freestanding ovens designed to stand out. Think brightly coloured enamel finishes with retro-inspired detailing or commercial-style stainless-steel ovens.

Steam ovens are about to take off, too, says Aleks Efeian, brand manager for Bosch. "They're huge in Europe and gaining traction here. The driving factors behind their uptake are the influence of cooking shows and people's desire to experiment in the kitchen."

Full steam ahead

With all the major brands embracing steam, it's clearly the next big thing in ovens. Steam cooking is healthier than conventional cooking because it retains the nutrients, intensifies flavours and doesn't dry out the food as much, meaning less oil is required. "Steam ovens make it easy to prepare low-fat, nutritional food," says David Woollcott, CEO of Winning Appliances. "They're easy to keep clean as you don't get that baked-on effect you get with conventional ovens." Steam is suitable for preparing all types of dishes, from roasts to desserts.

BUILT-IN OVENS



RUTINERAD 60CM BUILT-IN OVEN, $799

Practical and affordable, this oven has a 57L capacity, nine cooking functions (including a bread/pizza baking mode), fan-forced convection, full electronic display and low standby power consumption.

Ikea; (02) 8020 6641 or www.ikea.com.au.



OP8656S SERIES 5 60CM PYROLYTIC OVEN, $3299

This model has a generous 73L capacity plus oodles of appealing features, including 82 automatic cooking programs, MultiPhase step cooking, an auto-roast function, easy-to-use controls and pyrolytic self-cleaning.

Asko; 1300 002 756 or www.asko.com.au.



ARISTON FK898EPXAUS 60CM MULTIFUNCTION OVEN, $1799

A smart design with a reasonable price tag, this 66L oven has a programmable timer, 10 functions (including barbecue, gratin, pizza and bread) and pyrolytic self-cleaning.

Harvey Norman; 1300 464 278 or harveynorman.com.au.



SCA712N LINEAR 70CM MULTIFUNCTION OVEN, $3890

Make a statement with this chic Italian-made oven in black glass with stainless-steel details. It has a 90L capacity, 12 cooking functions, and manual or programmable cooking.

Smeg; (02) 8667 4888 or www.smeg.com.au.



HBG6767S1A SERIES 8 60CM MULTIFUNCTION OVEN, $2999

Cooking is a breeze with this intuitive 71L design. Programs include Bosch Assist (which automatically sets the optimal heat, temperature and cooking time) and pyrolytic self-cleaning.

Bosch; 1300 369 744 or www.bosch-home.com.au.



iQ700 HN678G4S1B 60CM BUILT-IN OVEN, $5499

Combining a 67L oven and microwave in one impressive unit, the iQ700 features intuitive cooking so you can set and forget, bakingSensor and roastingSensor technology plus automatic self-cleaning.

Siemens; 1300 369 744 or www.siemens-home.com.



NEFF B45E44N3AU 60CM SLIDE&HIDE OVEN, $3299

This 67L model has a clever door that sits under the oven to save room. It has nine cooking functions, a rotating handle, SilverLight display and a simple-to-clean interior.

Winning Appliances; (02) 9694 0300 or www.winningappliances.com.au.



H6860 BP 60CM MULTIFUNCTION OVEN, $6999

A top-of-the-line 76L oven featuring M Touch display, 13 functions (including Moisture Plus and auto roast), a wireless probe to tell you when food's ready, and pyrolytic self-cleaning.

Miele; 1300 464 353 or www.miele.com.au.

cut out and shop

H&G KITCHEN SPECIAL



STEAM OVENS

BLANCO BOSS383X 60CM STEAM OVEN, $2399

Cook healthy, flavoursome dishes with this 23L steam oven. It features automatic steam release to prevent steam build-up, an LCD touch-control panel and an easy-to-clean stainless-steel interior.
Harvey Norman; 1300 464 278 or harveynorman.com.au.



CDG634BS1 SERIES 8 COMPACT 60CM STEAM OVEN, $2999

A 38L oven offering four heating functions (pure steam for healthy cooking, reheat, fermentation and defrost), a SoftMove door and simple-to-use touchscreen control.
Bosch; 1300 369 744 or www.bosch-home.com.au.



SCA45V2 60CM LINEAR COMPACT STEAM OVEN, $3490

An eye-catching design in glass and stainless steel, this 35L steam oven has six functions, four shelf heights, LED display and an electronic timer.
Smeg; (02) 8667 4888 or www.smeg.com.au.



DG 6401 GENERATION 6000 60CM STEAM OVEN, $3599

In stylish mink-coloured glass and stainless steel, this 38L steam oven has intuitive programming, MultiSteam technology, simultaneous cooking on three levels with no flavour transfer, and touchscreen controls.
Miele; 1300 464 353 or www.miele.com.au.



FREESTANDING

GLEMGAS UN664MVI 60CM FREESTANDING OVEN, $1899

Compact and versatile, this dual-fuel model has four gas burners, a gas/electric oven made from low-porosity titanium enamel, and a removable glass door for easy cleaning.
Harvey Norman; 1300 464 278 or harveynorman.com.au.



ILVE NT906WMPI 90CM DUAL FUEL OVEN, $3799

If you love the look of a commercial kitchen, this 110L oven is sure to impress. It has 10 functions (including Turbowave Quickstart preheating), and a triple-glazed door.
Winning Appliances; (02) 9694 0300 or www.winningappliances.com.au.



OR90SDBSIPX1 90CM PYROLYTIC FREESTANDING INDUCTION COOKER, $5949

This model has an 85L oven with seven functions (including fan bake, defrost, rotisserie and pyrolytic self-cleaning) plus two zones with a 3000W PowerBoost option to boil water quickly.
Fisher & Paykel; www.fisherpaykel.com.au.



EFE956BA 90CM FREESTANDING OVEN, $6989

Great for entertaining, it has a 125L oven and induction cooktop with InfinitePro technology, so you can slide pots from one preset zone to another (eg rapid boil to simmer) without having to manually change the controls.
Electrolux; 1300 363 640 or www.electrolux.com.au. **H&G**

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Rock steady

One of the owners of this ensuite works in the field of design and initially visited the Minosa showroom in Sydney to look at a vanity. "We ended up doing the whole design and fit-out for her," says Darren Genner, the company's design director. "Our client has a very astute eye and she had a good understanding of what she wanted: a bathroom that would be monochrome, sharp and edgy."

The design solution This ensuite forms part of a parents' retreat for the owners, who have a brood of five children. The richly grained Bianco Carrara honed marble was selected early in the design stage and neatly defines the bathing area. "To make a statement piece of the bath, we decided to sit it on a 18cm raised Carrara platform," says Darren, who collaborated on this project with colleague Simona Castagna. The marble is complemented by charcoal porcelain tiles and a custom-made vanity featuring Minosa's Scoop-ED washbasins. A Gessi showerhead is perfectly scaled in the generous shower area, while a marble-topped hamper to the right of the bath doubles as seating. "The Gubi leather-strap mirror breaks up the room's harder lines and finishes it off beautifully," says Darren. ▶

Minosa, Alexandria, NSW; (02) 8399 0252 or www.minosadesign.com.



✚ The Gessi wall shower offers rainshower and waterfall functionality in addition to its good looks. It's a luxurious partner to the Brodware rail shower.

✚ "The homeowners knew they wanted a monochrome look, so the dark grey tiles were one of the first items to be selected," says Darren.

HOW TO...

Choose a freestanding bath

No single item will create more impact in your bathroom than a sumptuous freestanding tub. Daniela Santilli, bathroom business manager at Reece, explains what to consider when you're next shopping for a bath:

✚ "The size and layout of your bathroom will dictate which models you can choose, but have a good idea of the shape, colour and materials you like before you even start looking."

✚ "If space allows, position your bath in the centre of room as it gives the room a luxurious feel and allows good access for cleaning. And if you're fortunate enough to have high ceilings in your bathroom, a bath on a platform can look very dramatic." Conversely, if you're short on space, there are some fantastic petite freestanding models on the market today.

✚ "Depending on the material you choose, freestanding baths can be heavier than inset baths, so it's important to first check that your floor will be able to handle the extra weight."

Text by Sarah Pickette. Photograph by Nicole England. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



✚ "The round form of the mirror helps to soften this monochrome, edgy space," says Simona.

✚ Generous slabs of marble define the bathing zone within the room. The bath sits on a platform in the space.

The details

City Stik **basin sets,** 6-star WELS rating, $518/each, City Plus **rail shower,** 3-star WELS rating, $675, City Stik **shower mixer,** $356, and **bath filler,** $1643, Brodware.
Gubi Adnet circular **mirror** with leather straps, from $1504, Cult.
Custom-made **vanity** with double basins, mirrored cabinetry, Blum ServoDrive motorised hardware and vertical-lift opening system, from $6450, Minosa.
Gessi Tremillimetri 620mm **rainshower,** 3-star WELS rating, $1600, Minosa.
Haven 1760mm composite-stone **bath,** $6575, Apaiser.
Cromie 600x600mm ceramic **tiles,** $110/m², Minosa.
Carrara Bianco **marble slabs,** $319/m², Marble & Ceramic Corp.
Fluid 1300x778mm **heated towel rail,** $949, Avenir.



✚ The textured marmarino finish on the wall is a mix of marble dust and lime. It's a job for a renderer with specialist skills.

✚ An Artemide lamp picks up the bronze tones in this canvas print from Taupeology, based on a 16th-century work by Hans Holbein the Younger.

✚ The custom-made vanity is designed to blend into the wall. "If everything is the calibre of a jewel, then nothing shines!," says Antra.

✚ "The shimmering glass mosaic floor provides the wow factor I was after," says Antra.



Text by Sarah Pickette. Photograph by Martina Gemmola. For Where to Buy, see page 23

The details

Sicis Neoglass **barrel mosaics** in Satin, $419/m², Elite Bathware & Tiles. Custom-made 1400mm vanity in Laminex Fossil, about $1500, Taupeology. Sussex Scala 316 wall-mounted stainless-steel **spout,** from $253, and **mixer,** $632, and Mizu Drift 300 overhead **shower,** $180, Reece. Marmarino **render** in custom-mixed colour, about $300/m², Taupeology. Melampo Tavolo **table lamp,** $710, Artemide. Newbury 1800 **drop-in bath,** $743, Caroma.

Moody hues

A jewelled sanctuary: that's how Antra Lanskis, Melbourne interior designer for Taupeology, saw her own bathroom. "It serves as a powder room for guests and as a peaceful spot for me to retreat to for a long bath on a winter's afternoon," she says. "Its dual purpose gave me licence to explore some materials you don't usually see in bathrooms."

The design solution To create the desired shimmer factor in this bathroom, Antra chose Sicis glass mosaic tiles for the floor. "When I have candles lit they reflect off the floor," she says. "It's quite magical." A mirrored bath surround amplifies the effect. Balancing out the reflective surfaces are walls finished in a textural marmarino render. A striking artwork adds drama to the space. "This is a print on canvas of a 16th-century Milanese duchess. Her murky tones complement the walls beautifully." Antra went to great lengths to ensure this bathroom is well illuminated. "To enhance the iridescence of the floor, I had LED strip lighting put in beneath the vanity. Plus, I have an Artemide Melampo Tavolo table lamp for a gentle glow." Since the shower is used less often, Antra wasn't limited to waterproof fabric and instead used a length of diaphanous voile as her shower curtain. ▶

Taupeology, North Carlton, Victoria; 0411 117 880 or www.taupeology.com.

HOW TO...

Use mosaics

Mosaic tiles can work miracles in bathrooms, says Michele Kordic, owner of Brisbane's Elite Bathware & Tiles. She outlines what you need to know about using them in your home:

- When you're laying mosaics, it's vital that your substrate is perfect. "There's no forgiveness, as you're putting down a small tile that will show any uneven texture under its surface."
- Mosaics aren't any harder to maintain than larger tiles. "There are more grout joints but your tiler should use an epoxy grout, which means that maintaining it won't be an issue."
- Choose the right tiler. "It's important to use a tiler who has better-than-average skills. Expect them to take longer and charge you more for mosaics."
- Mosaics are a great choice for a family bathroom. "Having more joints means that mosaics are far less slippery than larger floor tiles. It's also possible to buy mosaics with a matt finish or ones that have been finished with a laser treatment to make them really non-slip."

Fresh approach

The owners of this Melbourne home were in the fortunate position of having a very large ensuite attached to their bedroom. "I was asked to carve off part of that space to create this adjoining second ensuite for the couple's son," says interior designer Peter Schaad of PS Design Studio. "The owners placed their trust in me and gave me complete design freedom."

The design solution While on a trip to the UK, the owners fell in love with and purchased a traditional-style Perrin & Rowe shower mixer for their ensuite. "It made sense to let this tap inform my design for the new space," says Peter. Complementary fixtures were sourced from The English Tapware Company and Calacatta Oro marble tiles selected for the floor of the new 2.5x4m ensuite. "I chose the tiles for their glossiness and ability to bounce light around, but also because nothing says 'quality' in a bathroom quite like marble does." The same marble is used on the vanity top. "It was tricky to source, but the effort was definitely worth it." Peter designed the vanity with subtle moulding on the doors as a nod to the home's heritage character. The ensuite is painted a crisp white (Dulux Lexicon) and the toilet tucked behind a door with vintage leadlighting and moulding. ▶

PS Design Studio, Caulfield North, Victoria; 0411 133 052 or www.psdesignstudio.com.

HOW TO...

Use classic tapware

Traditional-style tapware is experiencing a resurgence in popularity, and for good reason, says Stephan Marshall, managing director of The English Tapware Company. "Homeowners today want a bathroom that's warm, nurturing and well detailed, and classic fixtures are a beauty to look at and a joy to use." Here are Stephan's top tips for taps:

- The timelessness of traditional taps makes them equally at home in classic and contemporary bathrooms. "There's no need to adhere to one particular style; instead, seek inspiration from a variety of sources to create a highly individual scheme. Tapware and accessories are like jewellery for your bathroom."
- "Classic metal finishes are enjoying a revival, with nickel and bare brass newly appreciated for their ability to bring warmth and colour into a bathroom scheme."
- If you're buying traditional-style taps, buy the best quality that you can afford. "Check that they're true to the original design and precision-engineered."



The details

Calacatta Oro marble **vanity top,** $2100, Parthenon Marble. Custom 1600mm **vanity,** constructed by PMP Contracting, about $2680, PS Design Studio. Perrin & Rowe **shower set** with 310mm rose and lever wall valves, $1385, **basin taps,** $895, oval undermount **basin,** $775, double **towel rail,**$419, **bottle basket** and **soap tray,** $469, and **bath filler,** $2520, all The English Tapware Company. Bryant **wall lights,** about $395/each, Cromwell. Italian 200x50mm subway **tiles** in White, $60/m², Signorino Tile Gallery. Calacatta Grigio 610x305mm marble **tiles,** $325/m², RMS Natural Stone & Ceramics.

- The elongated subway tiles chosen for the shower recess are the perfect complement to the marble floor tiles and the oblong vanity.



✚ Peter had a broad-framed mirror custom-made to suit the proportions of the room perfectly.

✚ "My aim was to create a fresh, crisp space," says Peter. "I was lucky to have about 2.5x4m to work with for this ensuite."

✚ The toilet is located behind this door with a leadlight pane, a reminder of the home's heritage.

Text by Sarah Pickette. Photograph by Martina Gemmola. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



BATHROOM Q&A

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Q ***How do I find the right showerhead for me, one that feels good to use?***

A Every showerhead harnesses water differently. If you want a great-feeling shower, your selection should be based primarily on the coverage and spray force the showerhead can provide. Some conventional showers have limited functionality and can deliver a needle-like experience. Our showers [right] have been carefully engineered to give you a more balanced coverage and spray force. ***Laura Keogh, head of marketing, Methven Australia.***



Q ***How can I improve a perfectly functional but dated bathroom on a budget of less than $5000?***

A A new vanity, mirror, taps and light fittings can make a world of difference if you're after a cost-effective bathroom refresh. Spend the most on the elements that you most dislike. Should you decide to replace tiles, proceed with caution; if you compromise the waterproofing, you could end up requiring a complete renovation. ***Katrina Luxton, bathroom designer, Royston Wilson Design.***



Q ***I'd love a glamorous light in my bathroom. What do I need to know?***

A You're in luck, as this season's lights are all about raw, luxe finishes such as copper and marble, which can complement bathroom decor beautifully. Check with an electrician as to how far away from a water source your light should be hung, and always be mindful of choosing a style that can stand up to the effects of exposure to moisture. *Denise Hammond, product knowledge specialist, Beacon Lighting.*

Q ***Shower grates appeal to me much more than drains, but would they be as practical?***

A Yes. Grates visually disappear into the shower recess and long hair doesn't get caught as much as it does in a traditional drain. Always discuss the best spot for bathroom drainage with your builder and plumber. *Darren Genner, design director, Minosa.*

Q ***Cleaning the bathroom is my least favourite chore. How can I keep it to the absolute minimum?***

A Large-format tiles mean fewer grout lines and less scrubbing. And floating vanities are easy to clean around. Built-in baths require less cleaning than freestanding baths, but a freestanding bath makes the room look bigger so maybe it's worth the extra cleaning! *Sam Habib, manager, Domayne Bathrooms.*

Q ***We'd like our bathroom to serve us into our old age. What should we consider?***

A Thinking ahead, it's a good idea to design your bathroom to have a wide door opening and an open shower recess. There's no need to put in grab rails now if you don't want to, but it is smart to put some extra supports within the wall to accommodate these later. *Lee Hardcastle, bathroom designer, Enigma Interiors.*

Q ***How can I make sure my new bathroom will be a great place to unwind?***

A Ensure it's symmetrical. When you enter a room, you see it as a whole before you recognise its individual components. So by working symmetry into your design, you're giving your bathroom a clean aesthetic and creating a visually restful space. *Daniela Santilli, Bathroom business manager, Reece.*

Q ***My bathroom is tiny. Does this mean I can't use a dark, moody tile?***

A If you happen to love a dark-coloured tile, go ahead and use it no matter what size your bathroom. When space is tight, limit a dark tile to one area, such as behind the vanity. Another option is using a dark tile on the floor and keeping walls white. *Tina Di Lorenzo, marketing manager, Di Lorenzo Tiles.* ▶

Above Ando pendant lights, from $109/each, Beacon Lighting.
Below Bisazza Frozen Garden hexagonal ceramic tiles, $337/m², Di Lorenzo Tiles.



Produced by Sarah Pickette. Photograph by Nicole England (bathroom). For Where to Buy, see page 232.

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Bathroom STYLE STORIES



WE ASKED YOU TO TELL US YOUR BATHROOM STYLE STORIES AND YOU DELIVERED WITH TALES OF IMPRESSIVE RENOVATIONS AND BEAUTIFUL NEW-BUILDS. BUT IN THE END IT WAS THIS HOBART BATHROOM THAT DREW THE GREATEST PRAISE FROM THE JUDGES.

Crisp and sleek, Jane and Drew Moore's Hobart bathroom has won them $5000 cash from Reece. The couple's bathroom style story began with the purchase of a 1955 home that needed a lot of attention, not to mention a new extension. "We love the mid-century modern look," says Jane. "We wanted our new bathroom to offer a nod to the bathroom styles of that period but to still feel fresh and up-to-date."



"This bathroom's style story is an easy read. I love its modern-retro air and the combination of materials."

LISA GREEN, *H&G* EDITOR IN CHIEF



"A spacious contemporary bathroom warmed by the use of timber, thoughtful detail and luxurious fittings."

RINA COHEN, RINA COHEN INTERIORS





PRODUCTS /
Axon Floor Mount Bath Mixer, Chrome/Black Outlet, Milli; Axon Basin Mixer, Chrome/Black Outlet, Milli; Axon Ceiling Shower Arm and Rose, Chrome/Black, Milli; Axon Shower Mixer, Black Dial, Chrome/Black, Milli; Axon Robe Hook in Chrome, Milli; Mimo 450 Shower Shelf in Black, Laufen. For similar bath, try Formoso Freestanding Bath, Clearwater. All products available from Reece.

BLACK AND RIGHT

Jane and Drew opted for sleek Milli Axon fixtures throughout their bathroom. "I loved their beautiful simplicity," says Jane, "and the touch of black works in so well with our monochrome design." Every product from the showerhead to the floor-mounted bath filler and towel hooks are from the Milli Axon range, with the exception of the Laufen Mimo 450 shelf in the shower and the Milli Rush heated towel rail.

FIFTIES FLAIR

Referencing mid-century style, terrazzo is used on the floor. "We used a new product called TRU-Level," she says. "It came up really well, with the black and grey aggregate providing just enough sparkle and texture." Likewise, the mosaics so beloved in the '50s have been replaced with textured large-format black tiles from Signorino Tile Gallery. "I wanted the look without all the cleaning," says Jane. The gorgeous vanity was custom-made and showcases the beauty of American walnut.

MORE WINNERS!

Once the finalists were posted the online vote began. Jay Jones from Tweed Heads, NSW, and Casey Walsh from Cottesloe, WA, have each won a $3000 Reece voucher plus a free bathroom design consultation! Congratulations to both.

To see more finalists from the Reece Bathroom Style Stories competition, head to www.reece.com.au/bathrooms/style-stories.



"Simplicity is the key to our bathroom design. We wanted to keep it monochromatic and sleek."

WINNER, JANE MOORE







"I love this bathroom; it's nicely detailed, with black used cleverly in the fittings and feature tiles."

SCOTT WESTON, SCOTT WESTON ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

To discover more about Reece's extensive range of products visit **www.reece.com.au**

reece Bathroom Happiness™

VANITIES FAIR

Style and practicality flow forth when you set the tone with a chic statement vanity.

Vein glorious

A simple, uncluttered vanity speaks volumes in this Melbourne bathroom. "We chose to forgo storage to allow the bench to float the length of the room and in front of the window," says architect Charlie Inglis. Delicately veined Calacatta marble from CDK Stone is teamed with an Alape Unisono countertop basin, chosen for its fine lip. Inglis Architects; (03) 9421 1441 or www.inglisarchitects.com.



Text by Sarah Pickette. Photograph by Derek Swalwell (this page), Michael Gordon Hill (opposite). For Where to Buy, see page 232.



Textural triumph

Mixing textures can result in a very sharp-looking vanity. Interior designer and TV presenter Shaynna Blaze chose subway tiles in a custom bronze finish for the powder room of her Melbourne studio and paired it with a Trend Surfaces benchtop in Terra Chiara, both from Granite Transformations. "Using a granite bench that has an exposed aggregate alongside the metallic tiles makes you really notice the materials," says Shaynna. The wall at right is painted in Taubmans Trendy, a refined grey. "I wanted to keep the focus on the tiles and underline the elegance of the space." The sleek Kartell by Laufen basin is from Reece. ▶ **Shaynna Blaze; www.shaynnablaze.com.**

WOW FACTOR





Round & round

One eye-catching element can really bring a vanity to life. In this Melbourne children's bathroom (above) by Doherty Design Studio, it's the custom-made mirrors with powder-coated frames that do the trick. "The mirrors are visible as you walk in the door, so I wanted them to be striking," says interior designer Mardi Doherty. "They are grouped at varying heights for practicality and sculptural effect." A White Stone XS basin from Reece is paired with subway tiles laid in a distinctly unusual pattern.

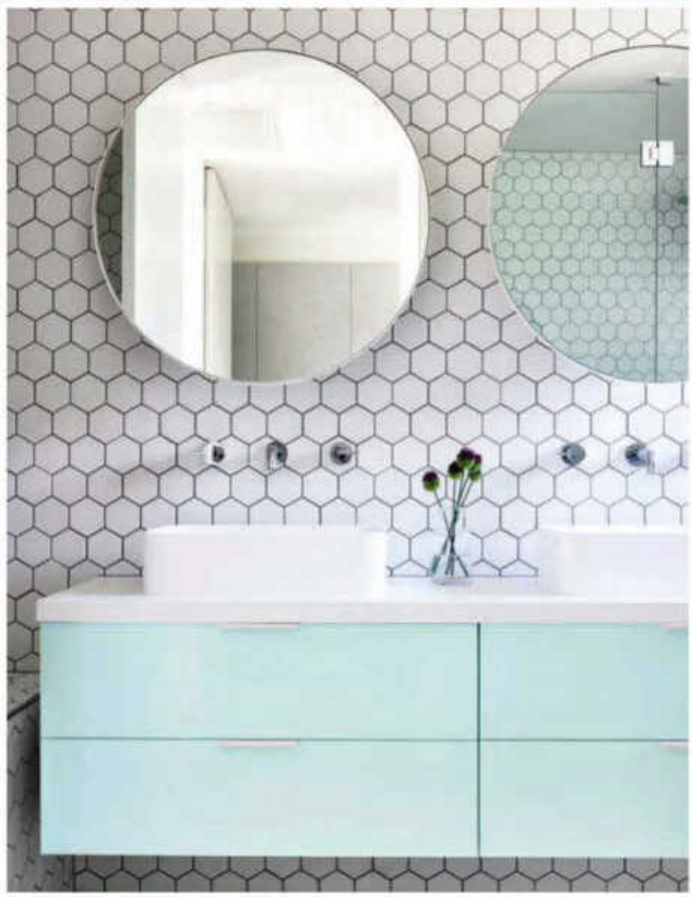
Play of ideas

Elegant doesn't have to mean boring. This ensuite (above right) is located in the same home as the children's bathroom and is equally playful in its design approach. "Again, the mirror was custom-made," says Mardi. "It appears to rest on the wall but it's fixed." A simple Scoop pendant light from Interstudio adds to the casual feel, but classic fittings also get a look-in. A prime example: the large-format terrazzo tiles from Fibonacci Stone, laid floor to ceiling.

Freshly minted

Mint green was Mardi's choice for the vanity in another Melbourne bathroom (right), one shared by three teenage girls. "The home was designed in the '70s and this green references bathrooms of that decade," she says. A coat of Dulux Brera has cemented the vanity's status as star of the room. Behind the mirrors are 150mm-deep cupboards that offer ample storage. ▶

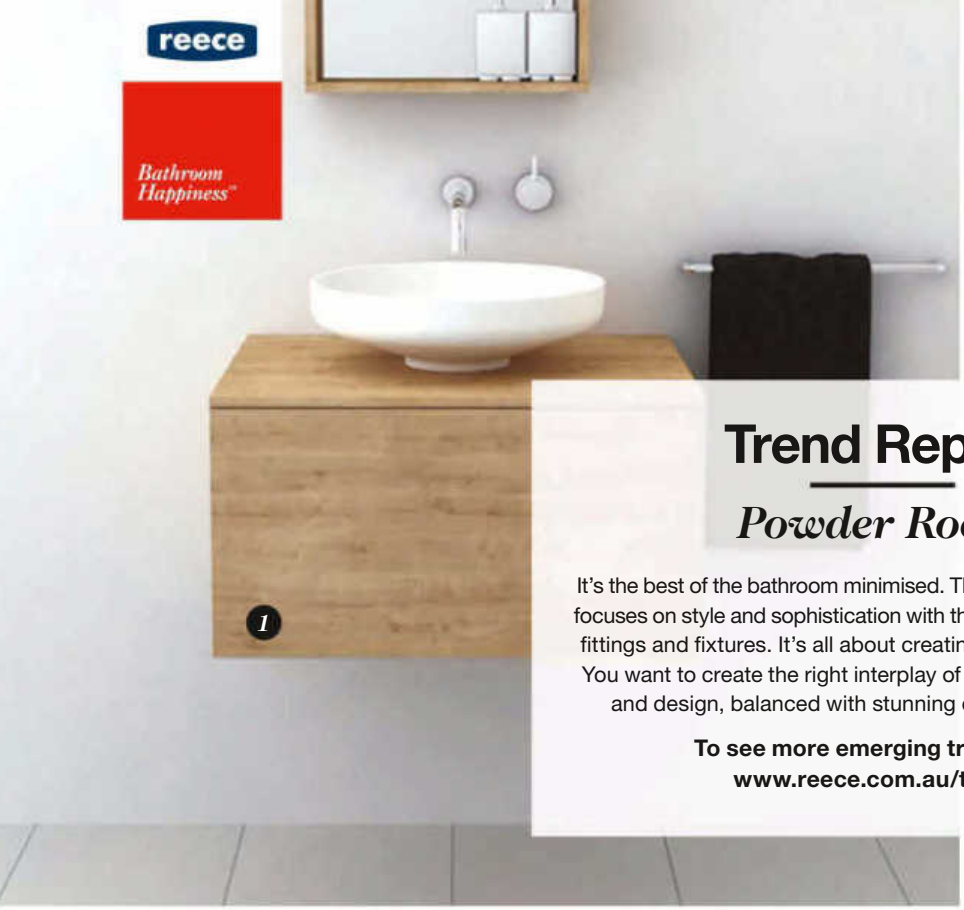
Doherty Design Studio; (03) 9815 2737 or www.dohertydesignstudio.com.au.



Photography by Derek Swalwell. For Where to Buy, see page 232.

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Bathroom Happiness™







Trend Report

Powder Room

It's the best of the bathroom minimised. The perfect powder room focuses on style and sophistication with the clever use of compact fittings and fixtures. It's all about creating the illusion of space. You want to create the right interplay of function, performance and design, balanced with stunning decorative touches.

To see more emerging trends visit www.reece.com.au/trends













Creating the illusion of space.

The best of the bathroom minimised.



1 Omvivo Venice 750 Wall Hung Vanity Unit and Venice 450 Counter Basin

2 Kado Aspect 330 Solid Wall Basin

3 Laufen mimo Shelf 450

4 Alape WT 400 Round Washstand

5 LAUFEN ILBAGNOALESSI One Freestanding Basin

6 Teknobili Loop Wall Basin Mixer Set WELS 5 star, 6 L/min

7 Hideaway + Rectangle In Wall Cistern Buttons Chrome

8 AXA Quattro Wall Hung Pan WELS 4 star, 4.5/3 L/ Flush, 3.3 Av L/Flush

9 Mizu Soothe 500 Wall Hung Vanity Unit

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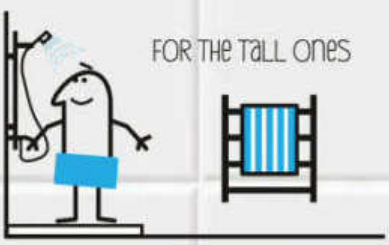
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Bathroom
Happy Tip #7

ENJOY THE UPS AND DOWNS

A Waterail Shower is an easy retrofit for any bathroom. With the ability to adjust the height of the shower outlet, it adds convenience and flexibility for the whole family.





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www.reece.com.au/happytips

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Bathroom Happiness™

bathroom news



Astra Walker continues to expand its range with this charming Eco Brass finish. It's lighter in tone than traditional brass yet with those rich, warm tones we love. Icon A69.08 mixer, 5-star WELS rating, $714; (02) 8838 5100 or www.astrawalker.com.au.

SOFTLY DOES IT

Best known for its fine china, Royal Doulton has branched out into softer homewares. These plush Eton combed-cotton bath towels in White, Linen, Silver and Red, $40/each, are available from Myer and bedlinen specialists. (02) 9938 2333 or www.royaldoultonhome.com.au.





Ciao, bella

Italians lead the way in bathroom innovation again. This new Teuco Prêt-à porter bath/shower unit (above), priced from $3650, is a great-looking and versatile space-saver. Available from Australian distributor Delsa; (02) 9712 0900 or www.delsa.com.au.

Text by Sarah Pickette.



FIRE & WATER

Chunky, colourful and handsomely industrial, Dorf's latest tapware line features hydrant-inspired twin handles in a choice of Red, White or Black. Industrie mixer, 5-star WELS rating, $559, Dorf; 131 416 or www.dorf.com.au.



GLOWING LOOKS

Perfect in its simplicity, this HD3 LED wall light would look chic as part of a pair gracing the sides of a mirror. In black or gold anodised finish or a range of powder-coating shades, from $185. ISM Objects; 1300 888 646 or www.ismobjects.com.au.



Dip into a study in scarlet

The Kado Lure bath is a favourite fixture in Australian bathrooms. Now, the Petite 1500mm model is available with a high-drama scarlet exterior. $1869, Available from Reece; 1800 032 566 or www.reece.com.au.

Breaking news: Melbourne furniture house extraordinaire Zuster has created two beautiful timber vanity ranges for Reece's Issy collection. Expect great things when they're unveiled in showrooms in September.



BASIN INSTINCT

The Memoria basin collection taps into the current trend for slim, precise fixtures. Priced from $895, the pieces are made from Mineralcast, a hygienic composite material that's soft to the touch. Rogerseller; (03) 9429 8888 or www.rogerseller.com.au. ▶

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inspire Caroma

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Promotion closes at 11:59pm (AEST) on 6/9/2015. One entry permitted per person. Entry is open to *H&G* readers who are Australian residents aged 18 years or over. Draw will take place at 11am (AEST) on 21/9/2015. Full terms at www.bauer-media.com.au/terms/competition-terms. See Contents for location of Privacy Notice. The Promoter is Bauer Media Pty Ltd (ABN 18 053 273 546). Permit numbers: NSW:LTPS/15/03599 ACT:TP15/05808 SA:T15/722 VIC:15/1034.

shopping



Sunstone composite solid surface 1800mm **freestanding bath,** $4145, Caroma.



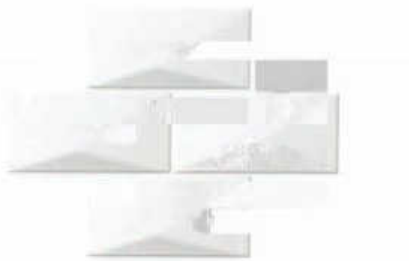
FROM LEFT / Sussex Pol **shower,** 3-star WELS rating, $367, and **shower arm,** $188, Reece. Old English **shower,** 3 stars, $748, Astra Walker. Axor Front **shower,** 3 stars, $1338, Hansgrohe. Strata **shower,** 3 stars, $325, Rogerseller. Indus **shower,** 3 stars, $336, and Inspire **shower arm,** $179, Caroma.



Chevron Carrara and Nero Marquina marble **tiles,** $30/320x300mm sheet, Tiles By Kate.



Arcade Hyde Multicolour glazed porcelain **tiles,** from $79/m², Beaumont Tiles.



Peak raised 75x150mm porcelain **tiles** in White Gloss, $88/m², Di Lorenzo Tiles. ▶



FROM LEFT / OH wall-hung **toilet pan,** 4-star WELS rating, $2034, Parisi. Viragio wall-hung **toilet pan,** 4-star WELS rating, $825, Kohler. Roca Meridian In-Tank back-to-wall **toilet pan** with built-in cistern, 4-star WELS rating, $2450, Reece.



FROM LEFT / Raymor Sigma 480x437mm vitreous china **countertop basin,** $195 (tapware not included), Tradelink. Chalice 420mm vitreous china **countertop basin,** $235, Kohler. Cupid 700 685mm ceramic **countertop basin** (tapware not included), $679, Caroma.

To see more outstanding bathroom products, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.



Produced by Sarah Pickette. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



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RU726 CHR Rush Twin Shower

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BEAUTY

BODY GUARDS



Signs of ageing don't end at the face. Be a smooth operator and pamper yourself with a skincare routine for all-over TLC, writes **Elisabeth King.**

Body products may be less exciting than face creams or make-up, but nothing shows the signs of ageing faster than neglected hands, feet, lips and necks. It pays to pamper these areas as part of your regular skincare routine.

BODY TREAT

Dry skin is a year-round problem for many women. Contrary to popular belief, showers don't help; hot water can leach moisture from skin. Adopt a two-pronged approach to the problem. First, use a moisturising gel such as L'Occitane Aromachologie Revitalizing Shower Gel (4), $28, with essential oils. While skin is still moist, smooth on Trilogy Ultra Hydrating Body Cream (1), $26, rich in rosehip oil and cocoa butter.

ALL-ROUNDERS

Friction-prone areas such as thighs, plus dry patches on elbows and elsewhere, need specific attention. Fortunately, there's been a surge of handbag essentials to treat dry areas on the run. Top buys include Dr LeWinn's Multi-Moisture Balm, (2), $30, with avocado and buriti oils, and Palmer's compact Cocoa Butter Formula Swivel Stick (3), $5.

BEST FEET FORWARD

The thicker the skin, the more likely it is to dry out and even crack. To keep your heels and soles in prime condition, slather on a treatment cream daily. Try Natio's Cocoa & Mint Foot & Heel Balm (6), $13.

SHOW OF HANDS

Dry, chapped hands can be the result of sun damage and exposure to chemicals as well as ageing. The gel-like formula of La Roche-Posay Cicaplast Mains, $16, soothes and repairs hands without stickiness. It contains niacinamide and 30 per cent glycerine to form a barrier against moisture loss.

CHIN UP

Skin on the neck is thinner than on the face, has fewer oil glands and is quick to show the effects of neglect and sun damage. To prevent premature ageing in this area, apply sunscreen first, followed by a moisturiser with benefits. Clarins Extra-Firming Neck Cream (7), $89, is an intensive de-ager that helps to keep the neck smooth and supple.

SMOOTH TALKERS

Many women lick their lips constantly, causing them to dry out. Protect them with a hydrating balm such as Burt's Bees Squeezable Beeswax Lip Balm (5), $9, a lighter version of the cult classic. Or go for Paula's Choice Resist Anti-Aging Lip Gloss SPF40 (8), $28. Available in clear or pink, it makes lips look fuller and guards against sun damage, too. **H&G**



FROM TOP / Small vintage timber rice measure (used as box), $40, Few and Far. For similar towel, try Muji. For similar loofah, sponges and pumice stone, try Priceline. Ceramic platter in Ash, $35, Mud Australia. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 232.

Styling by Kayla Gex. Photograph by Will Horner.

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Bathroom Happiness™

Trend Report

Fine Lines

A trend that's taking off right now, Fine Lines is defined by beautifully delicate design expressed through revolutionary craftsmanship. Impossibly thin yet incredibly strong. It delivers a seamless aesthetic underpinned by precise engineering. It's all about the rejection of ornamentation, bulk and fuss. This look is innovative, honest and pure.

To see more emerging trends visit www.reece.com.au/trends













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1 LAUFEN Palomba Collection Solid Surface Freestanding Bath
2 Milli Orion 105 Bench Mounted Bath Outlet
3 Milli Axon Shower Mixer Chrome
4 Laufen Living Square 360 Counter Basin
5 Milli Axon Mk2 Straight Toilet Roll Holder Black
6 Alape Metaphor 750 Above Counter Basin

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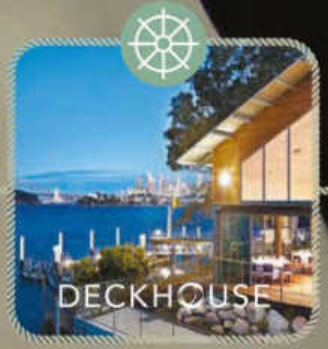
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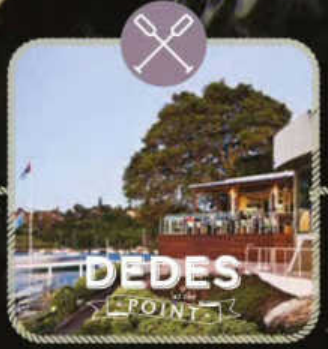
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ask an expert



Our resident interiors expert **Rose-Marie Hillier** reinvents a dated living room and shares the top 10 bedheads that are worth dreaming about.

WRITE IN

Send your question, with your name and address, to Rose-Marie via H&G Advice, GPO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 1028, or email h&g@bauer-media.com.au.

Q ***My living room needs a makeover but I have a very limited budget. I would like to replace the check-fabric sofa, oriental rug and timber venetian blinds. One of the walls is covered in framed family photos. Can you advise me? Eleonora Cecconato, via email***

A Usually I would take the rug or sofa as the colour inspiration for a room, but I think you should begin with the wall of framed photos. Painting it a bold colour, such as Haymes Paint Salsa Fire or Ginger Spice, will draw focus onto the photos and turn the wall into an exciting feature. Use this lively colour in small doses elsewhere in the room, for instance, as an accent in the rug and for the scatter cushions and throw. Paint the rest of the room in off-white (but not cream). The sofa style depends on your lifestyle. Sleek, low-slung styles with squared-off arms are cool. If you have children, try to avoid too many cushions, and if you want long-term durability, leather is a good choice. If you opt for plain upholstery, be brave with a pattern on the floor. Designer Rugs has designs and colours to suit all tastes and budgets. Ditch the venetians for a stylish roman blind in a soft beige or off-white textured or self-patterned fabric. Freedom offers both ready-made and custom blinds. www.haymespaint.com.au; www.designerrugs.com.au; www.freedom.com.au.



Photograph by Armelle Habib/bauersyndication.com.au. Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as print processes allow.



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Competition commences at 9am on 3/8/15 and finishes on 30/8/15 at 9am. Selected winners must be available for 'the visit' between 7 and 21 September inclusive. Promoter is Mars Australia Pty Ltd trading at Mars Petcare Australia ABN 008454313 of 1 Petcare Place, Wodonga, Vic 3960

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FAST FIND

BEDHEADS

A bedhead is the defining detail in a well-groomed bedroom, a feature that can instantly add glamour, amp up the comfort factor and even give you clever extra storage. Here are some great stylish options:

Kasper (1)

An upholstered bedhead with saddle-stitching and bordered edge. Shown in Augustus Linen felt. Four sizes. $1360-$1780, Heatherly Design Bedheads; www.heatherlydesign.com.au.

Rattan Gable

This charmer is crafted from rattan and plywood with a whitewashed finish and would sit equally well in a coastal or country setting. Only available in store. In queen or king sizes, $790-$940, Citta Design; www.cittadesign.com.au.

Brimnes (2)

Incorporating a nifty storage compartment, this combined bedhead/shelving system can be set at three heights. Comes in double or queen sizes, $200-$250, Ikea; www.ikea.com.au.

First Light (3)

Original abstract art exclusive to Mexsii is printed onto Belgian linen and detailed with metallic silver piping, making this monochrome design a stunner. Double, queen or king sizes. $1147-$2456, Mexsii Bedheads; www.mexsii.com.

Amelie

An Australian-made bedhead in blackbutt veneer, this has mood lighting built into its shelf. In two sizes. $1399-$1799, Domayne; www.domayneonline.com.au.

Essex (4)

With a 'hotel look' that's ideal for apartments, this design is made from Tasmanian oak upholstered in high-grade cushioning. It has studded wing sides and comes in five sizes. $2545-$3745, Coco Republic; www.cocorepublic.com.au.

Hamilton (5)

Distinguished by its button detailing and cocooning wings, this updated classic can be customised in your choice of more than 70 fabric and colour combinations. Available in queen or king sizes, $1199-1399, Forty Winks; www.fortywinks.com.au.

Woodstock

In what looks like recycled timber but is actually soft-touch fabric, this Will and James design is eye-catching and quirky. Four sizes. $545-$609, Wayfair; www.wayfair.com.au.

Capulet

Brass-toned studs and a bell-top profile define this simple upholstered bedhead. The height of the legs is adjustable. Two sizes. $499-$599, Freedom; www.freedom.com.au.

Ornate (6)

This upholstered style has an angled, shaped profile that works with many decorating schemes. In three sizes and numerous fabrics. From $849, Snooze; www.snooze.com.

the green house

get your fix

Undertake some smart retrofits and you can boost your home's sustainability, writes **Sarah Pickette.**



Photograph from Alamy.

Building regulations require today's new homes to be more eco-friendly than ever before. But if, like most Australians, you're not living in a freshly constructed home, you'll need to embrace retrofitting if you want to improve your home's environmental cred.

"A lot of homeowners are daunted by the word 'retrofit'," says Brett McKenzie, CEO of Sustainable, a Queensland building design and construction firm specialising in such modifications. "They assume it's going to be an expensive and complicated process. But retrofitting just means updating your home with the technology and materials we have available to us today. It's making small but effective improvements within the bounds of your existing home's design."

There is no one-size-fits-all answer to the question of what works best, says McKenzie, but he believes in improving every home's passive solar design by exploiting its orientation and ensuring its eaves and exterior shading are up to the job, and facilitating good cross-ventilation.

Air-leakage prevention is the number-one retrofit suggested to homeowners by Nick Mayo, sustainability adviser and owner of Canberra's Sustainable House. "It is so important to draught-proof your home. Air gaps around doors, windows, vents and even powerpoints are the cause of so much energy wastage." He advises choosing quality seals for doors, which cost more but could last up to 30 years.

Insulation is the next thing to check, says Mayo. "Get an infrared camera and take pictures of your home's exterior. Using thermal images, you can determine the amount of heat loss from your walls and roof, and pinpoint exactly where the greatest losses are occurring." If you identify major weak spots, blow-in insulation for your walls can be very effective, he adds, noting that rockwool is his preferred material.

Both McKenzie and Mayo agree that putting in photovoltaic panels or a solar hot-water system is a smart move because it pays for itself in a couple of years and minimises energy costs after that. **H&G**



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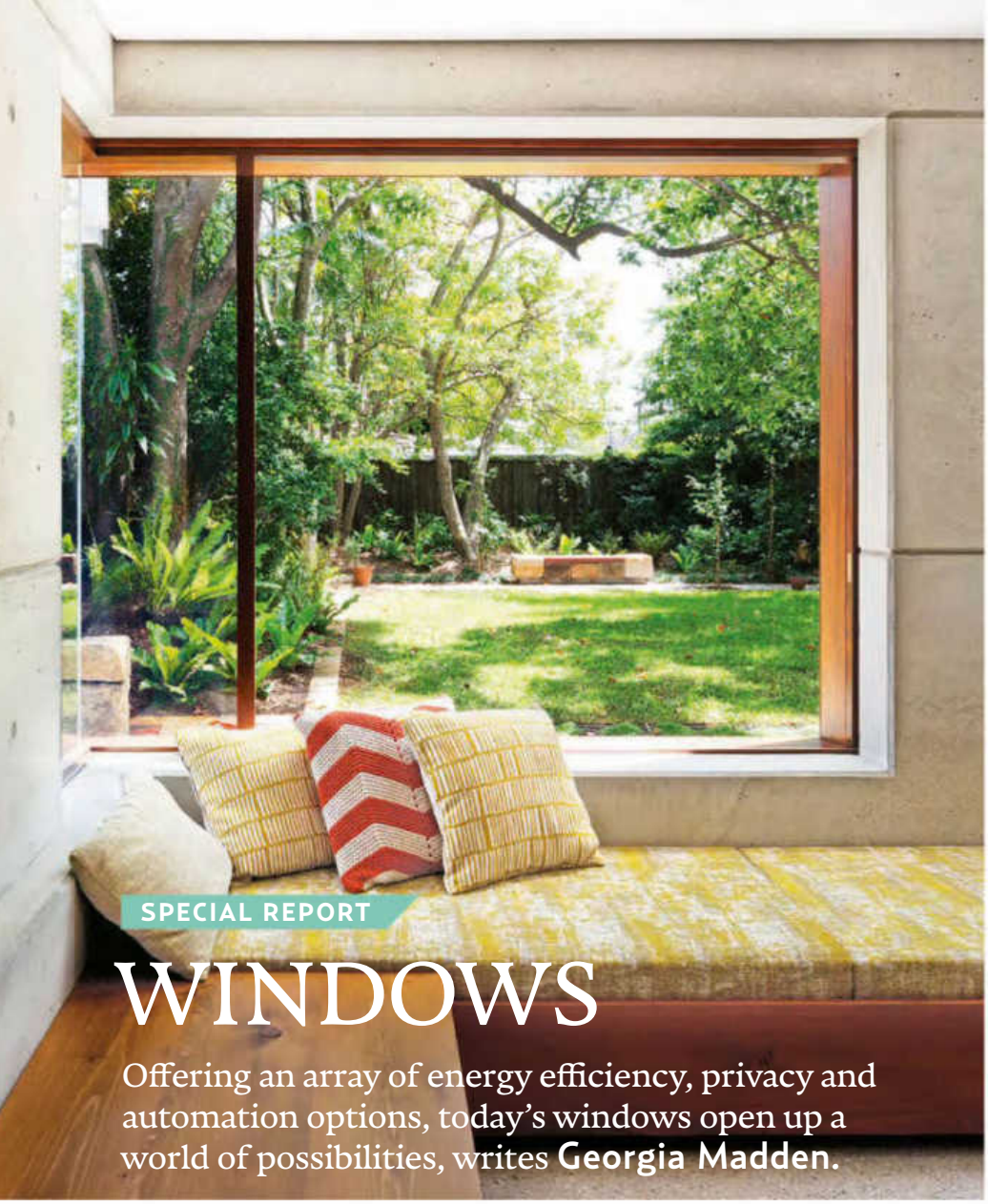
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SPECIAL REPORT

WINDOWS

Offering an array of energy efficiency, privacy and automation options, today's windows open up a world of possibilities, writes **Georgia Madden.**

Once considered the weakest point in the building envelope, today's high-performance windows are the stars. "A beautiful window that's thoughtfully selected and placed is an opportunity to connect, whether it's to the daylight outside, your garden or the landscape beyond," says David Langley, associate architect at Brisbane firm Arkhefield Architecture+Interior Design. "On a practical level, windows can help regulate temperature and noise while allowing cross ventilation, which helps reduce energy use."

Orientation, climate and privacy requirements, your home's architectural style, energy efficiency and budget all need to be taken into account when it comes to choosing the best windows for your home. Also think about window shape, says Colin Sharples, marketing manager at Trend Windows & Doors. "Square windows will give your home street appeal, wide picture windows guide the eye across a landscape, floor-to-ceiling windows capture the maximum amount of light."

Energy efficiency is the driver behind the development of many of the latest windows, says Daniel Black, Viridian's home comfort general manager. "More stringent building performance requirements have led to advances in glass efficiency and an increase in options." But it's not just about glass type, says Christine Evans, national marketing manager for windows at Jeld-Wen. "You need to consider the frame material; timber is one of the best natural insulators available and timber-aluminium composite frames also rate well."

To help you navigate the myriad possibilities, the Window Energy Rating Scheme (WERS) measures how well a window will contribute to the overall energy efficiency of a home – the more stars out of 10, the better. Visit www.wers.net for product comparisons.

You may think of energy efficiency as the key feature of high-performance windows, but they have many more attributes, says Sharples. "Lamination reduces noise, thicker panes boost your home's security and tinted glass reduces the amount of light entering the house."

Beyond double and triple glazing there are additional bells and whistles you can access (at a price) such as self-clean surfacing. Viridian offers a post-installation transparent window coating called Renew, which, when exposed to daylight, reacts with UV rays to break down dirt on the surface. When rainwater hits the glass, it forms a sheet that washes away the dirt. Pilkington has a similar product called Activ. Other high-tech options for your windows include glare reduction, privacy glass that goes from clear to opaque at the flick of a switch, even solar glass that generates electricity (see box, opposite).

When it comes to trends, it's all about homeowners' individuality. "Homeowners are no longer seeing windows as just something they have to have," says Evans. "They've become more discerning." Homes today regularly include oversized windows that foster a seamlessness between inside

Photograph courtesy of Arkhefield/Angus Martin Photography (this page).



'ASSESS THE SPACES WHERE YOU SPEND THE MOST TIME – THESE WILL BE THE AREAS WHERE SPECIAL WINDOWS WILL GIVE YOU THE MOST VALUE.' DAVID LANGLEY, ARCHITECT

and out. Narrow picture windows that frame a sliver of view are popular too. Then there are designs such as those by Vitrocsa that blur the line between window and exterior door with sliding floor-to-ceiling guillotine styles as well as corner windows that swing and slide to disappear from view as required.

Automation is another aspect of window technology that's evolving. In some of the latest styles, windows can be opened and closed remotely via a smartphone; in others wind and rain sensors open and close windows automatically when the weather turns. The sensors compatible with some windows, such as those made by Lockwood, differentiate between condensation and rain, and will then automatically switch on heating pads when condensation builds up.

When it comes to frames,"Timber has a warm appeal and offers better energy efficiency", says Sharples. It does cost more and requires maintenance. Aluminium is hardwearing and low-maintenance.

Composite styles, such as Stegbar's Siteline and Paarhammer's Eco Facade, give you the best of both worlds, with an aluminium exterior and timber cladding inside. Other materials gaining traction are steel and powder-coated and anodised aluminium frames that are custom coloured to match your home's facade, says David Moses, managing director at Sydney building firm, Horizon Habitats.

Top-quality windows can cost up to 10 per cent of your build budget, but are an investment worth making as they reduce ongoing power costs and enhance your experience of living in a home, says Langley. "A tight budget doesn't mean the exclusion of bespoke or feature windows. Assess the spaces where you spend the most time – these will be the areas where special windows will give you the most value. This could mean double glazing to create a quiet main bedroom or splurging on a large window that will connect your living area to the world beyond." **H&G**

COOL SCHOOL

If you're looking to keep power costs in check, shading your windows should be your first step. According to Jenny Brown, national marketing manager at Luxaflex Window Fashions, installing adequate window shading can cut your cooling costs by up to a whopping 60 per cent in summer and heating costs by up to 49 per cent in winter. "The ultimate solution for year-round energy efficiency is to team an exterior awning with a tightly fitted internal window covering," she says. Shading can also protect furnishings from the damaging effects of UV rays. Luxaflex's Silhouette Shadings, for example, provide up to 88-per-cent UV protection when the vanes are open and 99 per cent when closed.

SMART GLASS

Fancy the idea of using your windows to generate electricity? With photovoltaic glass, you can. The technology is still new to our residential market, but it has designers and architects buzzing. Windows made with photovoltaic glass look and operate exactly like any other, but incorporate a transparent solar panel that absorbs solar energy and converts it to electricity, which can then be used to power the appliances in your home. Best of all, windows don't need to face direct sunlight as the technology still works in areas of diffuse light and moderate shade. For more, visit www.onyxsolar.com.au.

ABOVE Stegbar's Siteline bifold windows are made of timber with an aluminium exterior.

property

blurred lines



Fencing is one of the most common neighbour disputes, so be clear about your rights before you erect a new boundary, writes **Harvey Grennan.**



Illustration by Domenic Bahmann.

You want to build, replace or repair a fence between you and your neighbour but the neighbour does not want to pay for it or wants a different type of fence. Or vice versa. What is the legal situation?

Residential fencing disputes are possibly the most common form of disagreement between neighbours. There are over 6000 such disputes registered each year in Victoria alone. The law on dividing or boundary fences varies from state to state but the principles are much the same. You and your neighbour must each pay half the cost of a 'sufficient' fence, broadly defined as the existing type of fence or the normal type for the neighbourhood. This must take into account the land use (for example, keeping in cattle) and any council fencing policies.

If one party wants something other than a 'sufficient' fence, for instance a Colorbond or pool fence, that party must pay the extra cost. There is nothing to prevent neighbours from coming to their own agreement about a fence – for example, that one owner will pay the whole cost. If you are a tenant with a lease exceeding five years, you may have to pay a share of half the cost of the fence, depending on the state you reside in.

Where the dividing fence needs rebuilding or repairing because of negligent or deliberate damage by a neighbour, they must pay for the repairs. If the work is urgent, an owner may carry out the work and recover part of the cost later.

If your neighbour refuses to pay for their share of the fence or insists on a different type, you can go to mediation or court. If mediation fails, you can issue the neighbour with a 'fencing notice' setting out the type of fence you want, where you want to put it and the estimated cost. Sample fencing notices can be found online. It is good practice to attach at least two quotes.

If the neighbour fails to comply with the notice in the prescribed time, you can obtain a court order. The court may decide issues such as the fence type and location and the apportionment of costs.

At the end of the day, however, the best course of action is negotiation. Issuing legal notices and going to mediation or court is time-consuming and stressful. And remember, they will still be your neighbour tomorrow. Put the terms of the agreement in writing, both sign it and keep a copy. **H&G**

DISPUTE RESOLUTION BY STATE

Victoria www.disputes.vic.gov.au
NSW www.cjc.justice.nsw.gov.au
Queensland www.justice.qld.gov.au/justice-services/dispute-resolution
WA www.magistratescourt.wa.gov.au
SA www.courts.sa.gov.au/OurCourts/MagistratesCourt/Pages/default.aspx
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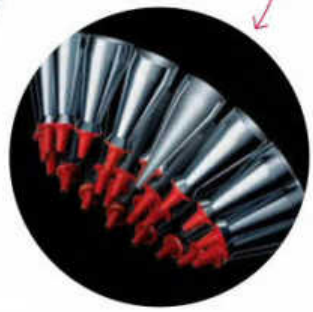
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Usher in spring with open arms



Rajasthani reclaimed-timber **sideboard,** $1650, Few and Far. **ON SIDEBOARD from left** Tuileries glass **vases,** $19 (18cm), and $50 (28cm), Freedom. Serax Pyramid Moniek glass **vase,** $13, Beautiful Spaces Inside and Out. Glass **measuring jug,** $75, The Country Trader. Serax Cylinder Relief glass **vase,** $88, Beautiful Spaces Inside and Out. Vintage glass **jam jar,** $45, The Country Trader. Serax Cube Rene glass **vase,** $26, Beautiful Spaces Inside and Out. Cote linen **table runner,** $110, Honey Bee Homewares.

Photograph by Will Horner. Styling by Kayla Gex. Flowers from Poho Flowers (throughout). Walls painted Endure in Apple Delight, $83/4L, Taubmans (throughout). For Where to Buy, see page 232.

SHOPPING

50 FAB BUYS UNDER $150 / 9 BY DESIGN

50 FAB buys under $150

SPRING BLING

Throw open your doors, update the cushions, add some (metallic) accessories to the mix. It's time to ring in the new season.

STYLING **KAYLA GEX** / PHOTOGRAPHY **WILL HORNER**



Wrought-iron **screen** (100x90cm), $149, Emporium Avenue. **ON BED from rear** Morgan & Finch Blanchett cotton **European pillowcases** in White, $40/each, Morgan & Finch Eugenie cotton **pillowcase** in Multi Floral, $35/pair, Bed Bath N' Table. House Doctor linen **cushion** in Rust/Grey Stripe, $110, Telegram Open House. Morgan & Finch Kiki queen-size cotton **sheet set** in Coral, $129, Morgan & Finch Blanchett queen-size cotton **quilt cover** in White, $150, Bed Bath N' Table. Hayman linen-cotton **throw** in Blush (130x170cm), $130, Linen & Moore. Ceramic **milk jug,** $29, The Country Trader. Mangowood **farmer's stool,** $89, Loft Furniture & Other Ideas. Bensimon cotton **tennis shoes** in Liberty, $110, Honey Bee Homewares. Porter leather **rug** (60x90cm), $40, Amalfi.

Stylist's assistant Sarah Maloney. For Where to Buy, see page 232.



$129, $60 / Salt&Pepper Zone metal **alarm clocks** in Rose Gold, $129 (large) and $60 (medium), Domayne.



$89, $89, $97, $65 / Handmade copper and spotted-gum **hoe,** $89, **trowel,** $89, **fork,** $97, and **stand,** $65, Grafa.



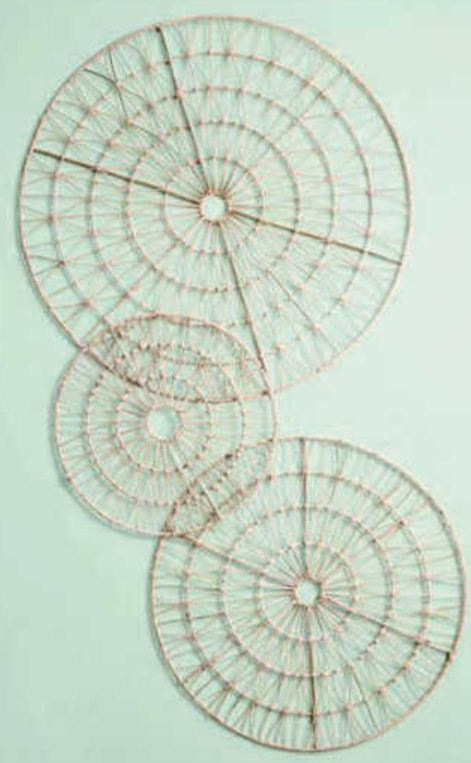
$70 / Set of three ceramic **herb pots,** Outliving.



$23 / Copper **fruit baskets,** $23/each, French Knot.



$35 / Butler MDF **folding tray table,** Fantastic Furniture.



$89, $29, $49 / Moroccan iron and cane **wheels** in Natural, $89 (90cm), $29 (50cm), and $49 (70cm), Emporium Avenue.



$130 / Belles Fleurs linen and polyester **cushions** (43x43cm) in Auriculas (top) and Grevillia, $130/each, Kerrie Brown.



$129 / Stainless-steel **watering can** in Red, Outliving.



$40 / Garden Party set of four ceramic **measuring cups** in Multi, Amalfi. ▶



$40, $30, $40 / Mini Tiko glass vase, $40 (16cm), Numa, $30 (12cm), and Nek, $40 (20cm), Villeroy & Boch.



$65, $65, / Found My Animal rope and leather **dog collars** in Blue Ombre, $65/each, **dog/cat collar** in Pink Ombre, $65, Few and Far.



$99, $60 / Lucie Kaas earthenware **vases** in Mint, $99 (17cm), and White, $60 (10cm), Urbaani Homewares.



$50 / Found Goods Market Octagon **candles** in tin canisters, $50/each, Saison.



$40, $20 / Flora Poetica melamine **platter,** $40, and **salad servers,** $20/pair, Mozi.



$40 / Porter leather **rug** (60x90cm), Amalfi.



$100 / Sly metal **desk lamp** in Copper, Coco & Crème.



$29 / Round clay **pots** in Terracotta and White (14.5x15cm), $29/each, Zakkia.



$4.95, $15 / *La Brocante Magnolia* **illustration** on paper, $4.95, Pulp Creative Paper. Ribba **frame** (30x40cm), $15, Ikea.



$29 / Copper-plated **measuring cups,** West Elm.



$6, $4.95, $3.95 / PET plastic **refill bottles,** $6 (600ml), $4.95 (400ml), $3.95 (250ml), Muji.



$29 / Loop ceramic **vases** in Terracotta and White (16cm), $29/each, Zakkia.

FROM LEFT Copper **pepper mill,** $70, Mr Kitly. Anna Gare glass and silicone **preserving jar,** $10/set of four, Albi Imports. Manhattan four-piece stainless-steel **cutlery set** in Copper, $45, Few and Far. Nkuku Mali ceramic **jug** in Off White/Terracotta, $45, Telegram Open House. Persia ceramic **spoon rest,** $10, Casa Domani.





$25 / Flower ceramic **bowls** in Green and Blue, $25/set of two, French Knot.



$30 / Ceramic **canisters** in Celestial, Magnitude and Stargaze, $30/each, Few and Far.

For Where to Buy, see page 232.



$35, $39 / Electroplated porcelain **jugs** in Copper, $35 (small), $39 (large), Robert Gordon Australia.



$25 / Glass **flower jars** in Copper, $25/each, Papier D'Amour.



$30 / Oversize jute plastic-lined **basket,** Zakkia.



$40 / Wire **fruit basket** in Copper, French Knot.



$90 / Balaclava copper and metal **wall clock** (40cm), Coco & Crème.



$35 / Flora Poetica Australian cotton **apron,** Mozi.



$10 / Nipprig palm-leaf rib **broom,** Ikea.



$25 / Panier des Sens **hand and body washes** in Rose Regenerante, Firming Sea Fennel and Provence, $25/each, Saison.



$45 / Manhattan four-piece stainless-steel **cutlery set** in Copper, Few and Far. **H&G**

For Where to Buy, see page 232.





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9 BY DESIGN

BATH MATS



1 / Wren cotton **bath mat,** $59, Crate Expectations; www.crateexpectations.com.au. 2 / Newbery cotton **bath mat**, $65, Sheridan; www.sheridan.com.au. 3 / Kolmio cotton **bath mat**, $40, Aura by Tracie Ellis; www.aurahome.com.au. 4 / Orlando cotton **bath mat** in String, $13, Papaya; www.papaya.com.au. 5 / Mileno Luxury bamboo **bath mat,** $44, Masters Home Improvement; www.masters.com.au. 6 / Jacquard cotton **bath mat** in Rain, $70, Citta Design; www.cittadesign.com. 7 / Cuba cotton **bath mat** in Parchment, $50, Freedom; www.freedom.com.au. 8 / Kas Australia Esta cotton **bath mat**, $20, Zanui; www.zanui.com.au. 9 / Monochrome stripe organic-cotton **bath mat**, $69, Loom Towels; www.loomtowels.com. Liano Nexus metal double **towel rail,** $241, Caroma; www.caroma.com.au. For similar ladder, try the Forma towel **ladder,** Domayne; www.domayne.com.au. Provincial Home Living; www.provincialhomeliving.com.au. Contemporary **plant pot,** $95, **Zanzibar Gem,** $50, Chapati **plate,** $75, Garden Life; www.gardenlife.com.au. **Body brush,** $35, Côté Bastide **bath gel,** $75, **soap,** $7.50, **face washer,** $20, Honey Bee Homewares; honeybeehomewares.com.au. Victoria + Albert Cheshire limestone and resin **bath,** $6065, Candana Bathroomware; www.candana.com.au. **H&G**

Styling by Kayla Gex. Photograph by Will Horner.

9 BY DESIGN

STORAGE BASKETS



1 / Recycled-paper and palm-fibre **basket,** $40, Oxfam; www.oxfamshop.org.au. 2 / Menu wire **bin** in Copper, $190, Top3 by Design; www.top3.com.au. 3 /Rattle rattan and buri **lidded basket** in Sulfur, $99, Freedom; www.freedom.com.au. 4 / Geo seagrass **storage basket,** $160, Down That Little Lane; www.downthatlittlelane.com.au. 5 / Cross washable-paper **basket**, $49, Zakkia; www.zakkia.com.au. 6 / Blue and Natural woven-seagrass **basket,** $125/set of two, The Design Hunter; www.thedesignhunter.com.au. 7 / Ferm Living Half Moon cotton **basket,** $90, Norsu Interiors; www.norsu.com.au. 8 / Indigo Lima jute-blend **laundry basket,** $118, Eco Chic; www.ecochic.com.au. 9 / X Large Jute Trim date palm, rushes and jute **basket,** $75, 2 Duck Trading; www.2ducktrading.com.au. **H&G**

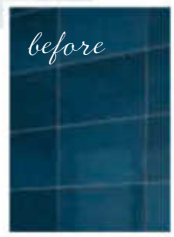
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Adairs 1300 783 005; adairs.com.au
Aero Designs (03) 9429 4910; www.aerodesigns.com.au
Albi Imports (03) 9474 1300; www.albi.com.au
Amalfi (03) 9474 1300; amalfihomewares.com.au
Andrew Maynard Architects (03) 9481 5110; maynardarchitects.com
Angelucci 20th Century (03) 9525 1271; www.angelucci.net.au
Anne Bailey Agencies (08) 9389 9070; www.annebaileyagencies.com.au
Attila's Natural Stone & Tiles 1300 550 966; attilasnaturalstone.com.au
Australian Native Landscapes 131 458; www.anlscape.com.au
B BASC (02) 6255 0055; bascact.com.au
Bauwerk Colour (08) 9433 3860; www.bauwerk.com.au
Beachwood Designs (02) 9918 7162; www.beachwood.com.au
Beautiful Spaces Inside and Out (02) 9310 7776; www.beautiful-spaces.com.au
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On our cover

This cool kitchen by interior designer Stewart Horton kicks off this month's Kitchen & Bathroom Special. Photograph by Jane Kelly. To see more kitchen and bathroom transformations, turn to page 159.



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Loom large
THIS MONTH'S INSTAGRAMMER, TAPESTRY ARTIST NATALIE MILLER, WEAVES HER MAGIC IN LIVING COLOUR, PAGE 241.

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Open house See how two newly transformed Victorian homes became one with their gardens, page 90 and page 122.
Masterclass Lighting can make or break a room. Darren Palmer will put you on the bright path, page 59.
Green thumb Horticulturist Kim Hamilton's tips for cacti care, page 78.
Get cooking! Rick Stein's step-by-step guide to preparing scallops, page 146, and Jared Ingersoll's asparagus pie, page 155.
Bathroom bliss Bathroom buys we love, page 204, plus enter on page 203 for the chance to win $5459 worth of Caroma fittings.
Change up Andrew Waller walks you through his makeover of a 1970s home on Sydney's Northern Beaches, page 41 .
Ask away Interiors expert Rose-Marie Hillier solves your decorating dilemmas, page 211.

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The Block 2013 winners Alisa and Lysandra find working from home gives them the flexibility to balance family time with their flourishing interior design company.

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THE TWINS' DAY LOOKS LIKE THIS...

7am: Alisa squeezes in an early spin class, followed by a green smoothie, before taking her son to day care. Across town, Lysandra packs lunch for her two sons and gets her eldest ready for school.

9am: The work day kicks off with Alisa and Lysandra preparing for an interior design consultation. They discuss mood boards, timelines and the desired look and feel for the client's space.

12pm: Lysandra spends some time online, sourcing designer tiles for an upcoming project. Her three-year-old son, Cohen, helps out by suggesting what style she should choose. Then it's off to the park, where Lysandra juggles her emails while pushing the swing.

3pm: It's a busy afternoon as Alisa and Lysandra star in a photo shoot for an upcoming project. The girls glam up, are briefed and are ready for their close-up.

7pm: It's back to Mum duties like dinner, baths and bedtime stories. The boys always have 10 million excuses why they can't go to bed!

11pm: With the kids asleep at last, it's back to work catching up on emails, sourcing furniture and updating social media before finally, bedtime, ready to do it all again tomorrow.

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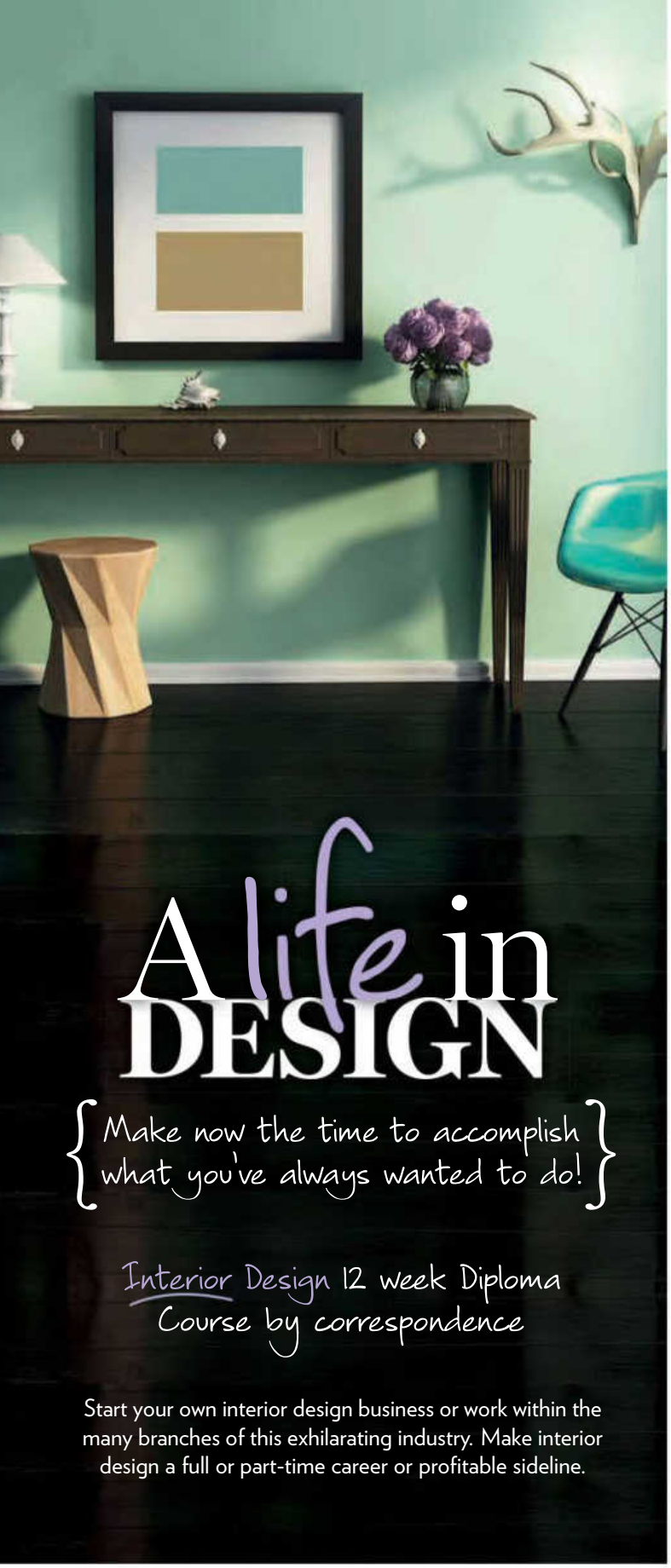
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AUSTRALIAN HOUSE & GARDEN

TOP 50 ROOMS

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my insta life

NATALIE MILLER



Tapestry artist/weaver @natalie_miller_design shares the images that define her craft and lifestyle.



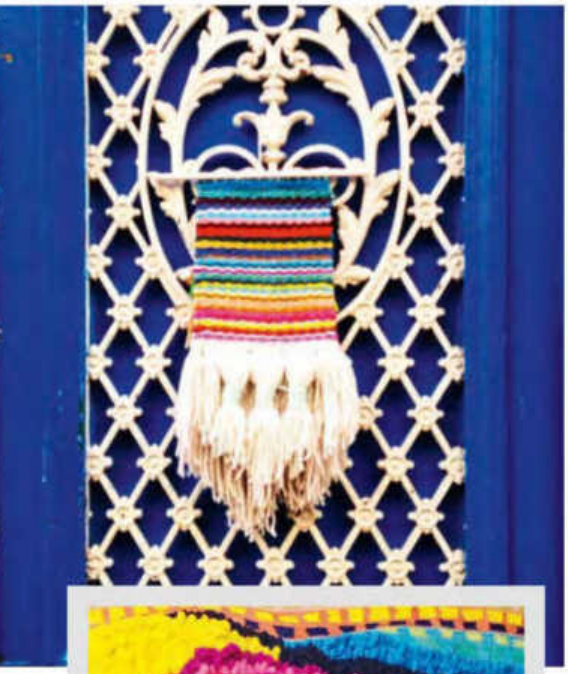
Coloured crafting balls I found in Tokyo.

Instagram Download the photo-sharing app and follow us at @houseandgarden.

Teaching macramé in Paris. #macrame



Weaving on a door in Paris. #weaving #Paris



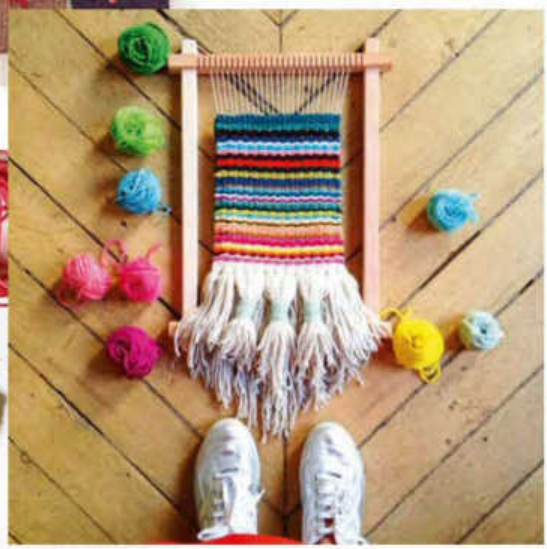


Colours. #hand-dyedwool



Playing with Copics. #designing

One of my hand-dyed wool works on a parquetry floor. #weaving #Paris





My daughter, dancing with colour. #weaving



Playing with waxed cord and mini macramé. #macrame

To see a video of Natalie making macramé, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.



Produced by Alaana Cobon.



1 / Beard Elixir **face and beard oil,** $29, Drugstore; www.drugstorelove.com.au. **2 /** La Fonction NO1.2 leather and canvas **laptop case** in Navy, $733, Living Edge; 1300 132 154 or www.livingedge.com.au. **3 /** Henley Brands LED **torch** with leather cover, $65, Hunting for George; (03) 9421 4849 or www.huntingforgeorge.com. **4 /** Oigen Hotsando cast-iron **jaffle iron,** $99, Chef's Armoury; (02) 9310 3002 or www.chefsarmoury.com. **5 /** *London* and *New York* **travel guides** (Gestalten), about $21/each, Monocle; www.monocle.com. **6 /** Paul Marius Le Messager leather **messenger bag,** $240, Sorry Thanks I Love You; (02) 9045 3241 or www.sorrythanksiloveyou.com. **7 /** Polka Dot silk **pocket square,** $40, Country Road; 1800 801 911 or www.countryroad.com.au. **8 /** Special-edition chromoly-steel single-speed **bicycle** in Dark Green, $1000, Tokyobike; (03) 9417 2845 or www.tokyobike.com.au. **9 /** David Weeks Studio Cubebot beech **toy robot** (58cm high), $285, Living Edge. **10 /** Michael Young Hacker stainless-steel **watch** with polyurethane strap in Gunmetal, $262, Living Edge. **H&G**

Produced by Christina Gee. Currency conversion correct at time of printing.

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